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Arab-Israeli Talks

Syria-Lebanon—The heads of the Lebanese and Syrian delegations expressed disappointment over the Israeli side's decision to depart Washington on 16 January, Amman radio reported. Addressing a news conference, the leader of the Syrian team said his delegates met with the Israelis only three times, and that no progress was made because substantive issues were not discussed. The leader of the Lebanese delegation described talks with the Israelis as being "both difficult and frank," adding that the Israeli delegation's departure date was "unacceptable."

Jordan—A spokesman for the Jordanian delegation denied reports that Amman was prepared to sign a pact with Israel that did not stipulate withdrawal from the occupied territories, Amman radio reported. Meanwhile, the Jordanian delegation presented a paper to the Israeli side detailing its interpretation of Resolution 242, as well as issues of settlements, water rights, borders, and refugees, PETRA-JNA noted.

Palestinians—During its meeting with Israeli delegates on 14 January, the Palestinian side presented them with papers dealing with settlement activities, Israeli human rights violations, an outline for Palestinian interim self-government, and a revised and expanded agenda, spokeswoman Hanan 'Ashrawi stated in an interview with Amman television. The Israeli side offered no corresponding proposals or agenda, she noted. Separately, 'Ashrawi stated that unless all settlement activities are halted, there will be no progress in the peace talks, PETRA-JNA reported.

Israel—The Israeli delegation rejected a Palestinian proposal to discuss the issue of settlements, Jerusalem radio reported. Yosi Ben-Aharon, the head of the Israeli delegation, stated that Israel could "congratulate" itself on the fact that it "did not budge an inch on issues of substance," the radio disclosed in a separate dispatch. Nevertheless, Tel Aviv's ambassador to Washington said the Israeli side was putting its proposal for Palestinian interim self-rule "on the negotiating table," Tel Aviv radio noted. Jerusalem radio characterized the Israeli delegation's 15 January talks with Palestinians on interim self-rule as "businesslike" in contrast to the previous day's "stormy" session.

Iraq

Residents of cities across Iraq participated in "mammoth" demonstrations to mark the anniversary of the "ugliest and most vicious barbaric aggression" launched on 16-17 January 1991 by "the United States, its Zionist and Atlantic allies, and the Arabs of vice," Baghdad radio reported. Separately, Baghdad radio broadcast the text of a speech by Saddam Husayn to the General Federation of Iraqi Youth on the subject of democracy.

Egypt

The government has rejected an Iraqi request to resume direct flights between Cairo and Baghdad, AL-WAFD disclosed. The Iraqis requested the flights to facilitate the repatriation of the bodies of Egyptians killed during the Gulf war, the paper added.

Inter-Arab Affairs

The Arab Parliamentary Union issued a final statement at the conclusion of its emergency session in Libya on 15 January, Tripoli radio reported. The statement expressed solidarity with Libya, condemned "threats" against it, declared the delegates' "unequivocal condemnation" of terrorism, and urged the UN Security Council to ensure a "neutral" investigation of allegations against Libya regarding the Pan Am crash in Lockerbie.

Algeria

The National Liberation Front, FLN, and the Islamic Salvation Front, FIS, held a meeting on 15 January, according to a communique issued by the FLN, Algiers Radio reported. The parties exchanged opinions and agreed to maintain a dialogue, according to the radio.

Kuwait-Japan

Tokyo has promised to help with Kuwaiti postwar reconstruction, KYODO reported. The pledge was made by Japanese Trade Minister Kozo Watanabe during a 14 January meeting with the amir. During their talks, Watanabe reportedly also asked for an extension of the Japan-owned Arabian Oil Company's oil concessions in Kuwait, due to expire in the year 2003.

Kuwait

The planning minister said Kuwaitis "must become a majority" in their own homeland, even if it means curtailing economic development in the country's nonoil sectors, KUNA disclosed. The government target is to have Kuwaiti citizens make up 60 percent of the overall population and for foreigners to comprise no more than 40 percent, the minister stated.

Arab-Israeli Talks

Delegation Heads Comment; Sessions Continue

Arab Leaders Hold Joint Meeting

JN1501142492 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Jan 92

[George Tarif dispatch from Washington]

[Text] Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, head of the Jordanian delegation to the peace talks; Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation; Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian delegation; and Suhayl Shammas, head of the Lebanese delegation, ended a four-way meeting this morning, the second of its kind since the second round of Washington talks began.

Following the meeting, the heads of the four delegations told reporters that the meeting was part of continuing coordination and consultation and was designed to acquaint the delegations with the talks each delegation had held inside the negotiation halls, as well as to exchange views.

[Begin al-Majali recording] This meeting is part of a series of coordination meetings that should take place among the Arab delegations to brief all of us on what is being said at the talks and to exchange views on any of these positions that concern all the Arab countries as well as the Israeli side. This is our plan because we believe that peace should be for the entire region and not for a certain state or party. Lasting peace is for everyone; partial peace will never bear fruit. [end recording]

Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation, also stressed that the meeting emphasized coordination among the four heads of delegations and that it was part of continued coordination.

In a statement on last night's session between the Lebanese and Israeli delegations, Suhayl Shammas, head of the Lebanese delegation, said that the session was both difficult and frank at the same time and that he responded to an Israeli proposal regarding negotiations.

[Begin Shammas recording] As you know, the Israeli side informed the Lebanese and Syrian delegations that it wanted to leave tomorrow night and therefore, it would end the meetings tomorrow evening. This is Israel's position. We do not share this opinion with the Israelis because we are here to hold in-depth and substantive negotiations and besides, we have only been here a short time. Therefore, we view the Israeli proposal as unacceptable. Second, there is an Israeli proposal to replace Washington as a venue for bilateral and direct negotiations. This proposal is also unacceptable. That was what we discussed during this evening's session. [end recording]

Muwaffaq al-'Allaf answered reporters' questions. He said: We want to have peace. He expressed support for what Shammas stated. Regarding his meeting with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, he said:

[Begin al-'Allaf recording] This meeting was part of the usual meetings we hold during these talks and was aimed at acquainting the U.S. sponsor with the progress of the talks and the difficulties and obstacles hampering the negotiations. The U.S. sponsor stressed its support for the peace process and reiterated its promise that it would always be a driving force behind the peace process. [end recording]

It has been decided that the Jordanian delegation will hold a second session with the Israeli delegation at 1630. The Lebanese and Israeli delegations will also hold a second session, while the Syrian and Israeli delegations will hold a third session. This also applies to the Palestinian and Israeli delegations.

Jordan Denies Treaty With Israel

JN1501152092 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Dr. Marwan al-Mu'ashshir, media spokesman for the Jordanian delegation, has categorically denied some news agency reports that Jordan is ready to sign a peace treaty not contingent on Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

In a statement to a JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Washington, Dr. al-Mu'ashshir said that Jordan's position in this regard has not changed, it is clear and firm, and it stipulates Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied territories, including the city of Jerusalem. He stressed that Jordan seeks a comprehensive peace and not a unilateral peace treaty with Israel.

Dr. al-Mu'ashshir expressed his regret over the circulation of such fabricated and completely baseless news reports.

Al-Mu'ashshir-'Ashrawi News Conference

JN1501163992 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1620 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Washington, 15 Jan (PETRA)—Dr. Marwan al-Mu'ashshir, media spokesman for the Jordanian delegation to the peace talks, said that at yesterday's meeting Jordan presented to the Israeli delegation a paper detailing Jordan's interpretation of Security Council Resolution 242, in addition to the issues of settlements in the occupied territory, water, borders, and refugees. At a joint news conference with Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation, al-Mu'ashshir added: The Jordanian vision of peace with Israel includes the principles of peace, land, and security as interlinked factors—in addition to the principle of Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territory, regional sovereignty, security arrangements for all states in the region, arms control, economic relations and cooperation among all these states, and respect for human rights.

Dr. al-Mu'ashshir said that the Jordanian delegation explained to the Israeli negotiators that it is not acceptable for them to present the same agenda they presented during the meeting of the Palestinian-Israeli track. He added that the Jordanian delegation is ready to discuss the issue of the venue for the next round negotiations after progress is achieved in the current talks.

Dr. al-Mu'ashshir said that our vision of peace—when all issues between us are resolved—will include cooperation in all fields and that diplomatic relations will be one of these.

The Jordanian media spokesman affirmed that during the negotiations, the Jordanian delegation will not accept conditional discussions.

Asked if Jordan believes that Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights is a precondition to concluding a peace treaty between Jordan and Israel, Dr. al-Mu'ashshir said that making conditions is not the appropriate way to proceed with the talks. He also noted that all parties should come to the negotiating table ready to discuss all issues.

He said: It is too early to sign a peace treaty between Jordan and Israel. We must first see what kind of treaty will be presented to us. We have not yet seen any documents enabling us to talk about this subject.

Asked about the Israeli delegation's departure from Washington, the Jordanian spokesman said the Israeli side has not, in any way, informed the Jordanian delegation that it will leave Washington this evening. He said he thinks it will be difficult for the Israeli side to justify its departure at a time when progress has been achieved after the start of the talks.

On her part, Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokesperson for the Palestinian delegation, stressed the need to have an appropriate framework for the peace talks between the Arabs and Israelis, especially regarding the Israeli settlements in the occupied territories.

Asked if the Palestinians will accept a deal to end the intifadah in exchange for a freeze on Israeli settlements, Dr. 'Ashrawi said: It is obvious that there will be no progress in any field unless all settlement activities are halted. We do not accept the principle of recognizing a status quo.

She explained that this requires a redrawing of the borders for the settlements, an end to land confiscations, and an end to bringing in settlers to live in them.

Asked whether the Palestinians are prepared to enter into substantive negotiations regarding autonomy arrangements, in the event settlements continue, Dr. 'Ashrawi said that if we want the substantive negotiations to lead to a transitional period, we must resolve these issues positively. Therefore, she added, the problem of settlements should be resolved to make the negotiations succeed.

When reporters asked Mrs. 'Ashrawi to explain whether the Palestinians view the suspension of settlement activities as a condition for the success of the negotiations, Mrs. 'Ashrawi said: We have actually started the negotiations, stressing that the Palestinians will not try to narrow their options during the negotiations.

Mrs. 'Ashrawi also pointed out that Israel's reply to the Palestinian objection to the settlements is based on ideology.

She added: We have not come here to discuss ideological issues but to negotiate on legitimacy.

Al-Majali Briefs Baker on Progress

JN1501165792 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, head of the Jordanian delegation to the peace talks, met with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker at the U.S. State Department building at 1500 today, Jordan time [1300 GMT].

During the meeting, they reviewed developments in the Middle East peace process. Dr. al-Majali briefed Baker on the progress of the bilateral talks.

Mr. Baker is scheduled to meet today with heads of the Palestinian and Israeli delegations separately. The U.S. secretary of state met separately yesterday with the heads of the Syrian and Lebanese delegations.

'Abd-al-Shafi Claims Israeli 'Sabotage'

LD1501183292 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, leader of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks, has reaffirmed the Palestinian people's resolve to attain a comprehensive, just, and permanent settlement that guarantees its legitimate national rights.

In a speech at the opening of the first session of the bilateral Palestinian-Israeli negotiations that the Palestinian delegation attended as an independent delegation, Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi attacked the persecution measures taken by Israel in the occupied Palestinian territories, pointing out that the illicit deportation order of 12 Palestinians at the beginning of this month constitutes a deliberate form of reprisal against the Palestinian people. 'Abd-al-Shafi asked Israel to implement immediately UN Security Council Resolution 726, that demands Israel rescind the implementation of the deportation orders and repatriate all deportees.

'Abd-al-Shafi said the Palestinian intifadah is an outcry for freedom and the assertion of the national identity of the Palestinian people. He noted the mass sanctions by Israel in the occupied territories: curfews, the use of live ammunition against the inhabitants, the formation of special military units to carry out assassination operations against young men being pursued by the occupation authorities, the imposition of arbitrary high taxes,

the closure of schools and universities, the rapid confiscation of Palestinian land, water, and so on. Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi described the Israeli attitude, saying: It reveals a premeditated intention to sabotage the peace process at a time when the Palestinian side is showing its desire to offer tangible progress in order to realize a just peace based on international legitimacy. The chairman of the Palestinian delegation accused the Israelis of procrastination and maneuvering in entering the stage leading to discussions and treating the essential issues that actually lead to peace. He placed the responsibility for the collapse of the peace process and the resulting impasse on the Israelis. He stressed that there can be no peace with the building of settlements. He pointed out that the Israelis are insisting on discussing procedural issues relating to the date and venue of the fourth round and the return of the negotiations to the starting point. The chairman of the Palestinian delegation asked: What are we to talk about? What are we to discuss with the Israelis if the building of settlements does not stop and the process of land confiscation is not halted?

In the second session, 'Abd-al-Shafi put forth the Palestinian proposals for the peace process and summarized them as follows: First, ending all hostile practices and specifying a time frame for withdrawal. Second, the borders of our state are based on UN Resolution 181 on partition, including the Arab character of Jerusalem. Third, we call for direct negotiations with the PLO within the international framework.

In another development, in a telephone conversation with WAFA a few hours before the beginning of the third session that was scheduled to be held at noon today between the Palestinian and Israeli delegations, Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi stated: Our delegation will leave the meeting hall if the Israeli side insists on its stubborn position on the settlements. He added: We have made this decision in response to the refusal of the Israeli side to stop the settlements in all the occupied Palestinian territories—the first essential point in the agenda proposed by the Palestinian side. Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi said: Israeli approval of this point can give a strong boost to the peace process.

'Sources' Deny Palestinian Threat To Walk Out

TA1501174392 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1700 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Excerpt] The heads of the Israeli and the Jordanian-Palestinian delegations are currently meeting in Washington. Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that sources in the Palestinian delegation in Washington have denied a report originating in Tunis that the Palestinian members of the delegation will walk out of the talks tonight due to Israel's refusal to halt settlements. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Radio Sees 'Crisis'

LD1501184592 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] The peace negotiations between the Arab and Israeli delegations entered a crisis that led to the intervention of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker yesterday and today. Baker sought to resolve this crisis so that the peace negotiations might continue, despite the fact that the Israeli delegation had announced it would leave Washington this evening.

This crisis first began to appear in the Syrian-Israeli negotiations, particulalrly after the Israeli delegation insisted that Syria should recognize Israel's presence in the Middle East as a precondition for discussing other issues. This crisis also began to appear in the second session of the talks between the Palestinians and Israelis when the Palestinian delegation asked Israel to stop building settlements immediately. This is opposed by Shamir's government.

Teams Extend Stay; Plenum To Meet

TA1501202092 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2000 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] The Israeli negotiating teams to the peace talks have extended their stay in Washington by one day and will not leave for Israel until tomorrow evening. Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that as a result of the postponement of their departure, the plenum of the Israeli and Jordanian-Palestinian delegations will apparently convene tomorrow morning. The talks between the Israeli and Palestinian delegations are scheduled to resume in approximately one hour.

'Ashrawi on Baker Meeting, Talks With Israelis

JN1501221292 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 2000 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Palestinian spokeswoman Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi met with U.S. State Department officials for discussions on several issues related to the peace process. 'Ashrawi said they discussed the multilateral talks and that the Palestinians are waiting clarifications from the U.S. Administration. She said a decision would have to be made from the Palestinian leadership.

[Begin 'Ashrawi recording] The meeting with the secretary was very cordial, very frank. There was an assessment of the current state of the peace process. There was also an assessment wherein Secretary Baker reiterated the administration's serious commitment to the peace process. He was fully briefed on the current situation and stated that he is willing to take an active role on issues of substance. The fact that procedural issues did not gain significance does not mean that the U.S. Administration is not involved seriously and closely in the process of substance.

Yesterday, we presented the Israelis with several papers. One of them dealt entirely with settlement activities;

another had to do with the Israeli human rights violations. We also gave them a revised and expanded agenda, as well as our outline of the Palestinian interim self-government arrangements. The Israelis had no agenda to offer. They did not have any written proposals to offer, and we could not enter into negotiations on the agenda. So, we started negotiations on the settlements, which constitutes the central item for preparing the way for negotiations on the transitional phase.

The settlements [as heard] immediately reached a confrontational point. The Israelis started discussing ideology and we started negotiations in good faith; the settlement activities undermine the whole process and prevent any serious discussion on the agenda items. [end recording]

Shoval Says Israel Ready To Discuss Self-Rule

TA1501204992 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 2030 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Israel's Ambassador in Washington Zalman Shoval announced a few minutes ago that the Israeli delegation would remain in Washington until Thursday afternoon. Responding To questions from correspondents, Shoval said the Israeli side was ready to place its plan for interim arrangements for self-rule in the territories on the negotiating table. We are interested in pursuing that issue and making progress as quickly as possible, Shoval said.

Documents Submitted to Israelis Cited

JN1501172292 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Excerpt] About an hour and a half ago, the second session of talks was resumed between the Palestinian and Israeli delegations. The Palestinian delegation submitted two documents. The first related to the Palestinian view of the future and a Palestinian plan to establish an interim government in the occupied territories. The second document concerns the settlements.

[Begin 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of Palestinian delegation, recording in English] Good evening. We had a protracted discussion. We submitted documents to the Israeli delegation on our idea of the interim self-government arrangements. We also submitted another important document on the importance of halting the settlement process in the occupied territories as a prerequisite for establishing a just and stable peace.

We had a long debate on these issues, and the answer we got from the Israeli delegation is that the Israeli Government will not agree to halt the settlement process. We indicated, in a very serious manner, that we consider the settlement process to be a central issue and that it impacts on the peace process. We also said that if there is no cessation of the settlement process, then that practically means that there is no peace process. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Al-'Allaf 'Satisfied' After Meeting With Baker

JN1501195792 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Hisham Milhim dispatch from Washington]

[Excerpts] U.S. Secretary of State James Baker today continued his meetings with delegations participation in the Washington negotiations. [passage omitted]

Dr. Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian delegation told Radio Monte Carlo that Baker had stressed Washington's serious commitment to the peace process, as well as the need to not adhere to preconditions and to quickly enter into discussions on substantive issues.

Al-'Allaf added that Baker, who left Washington for El Salvador, affirmed to the heads of the delegations that his travel does not mean that he will be away from the negotiations.

He also said that Baker urged the continuation of the negotiations and that the lack of public clamor by Washington does not mean that it is not interested in overcoming the obstacles. Al-'Allaf added that Baker reiterated that Washington reserves the right to interfere strongly and actively to resolve the differences over substantial issues whenever it feels the existence of a major obstacle is threatening the peace process.

Al-'Allaf added he was satisfied with the meeting and said what he heard from Baker was reassuring, because, he added, it came at a time when the sponsor of the conference, the United States, has not been publicly active. This, he said, is the first high-level move proving that they are seriously interested in the success of the peace process. He added: The Israelis did not inform Baker officially they would suspend the negotiations today. He added that he did not discuss the Moscow conference with Baker.

Blames Israel for Lack of Progress

JN1501222292 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2115 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Washington—The third round of the second phase of the Middle East peace process has ended with the outcome Israel wanted, with the Israeli side insisting on restricting the talks and avoiding any serious discussion of substantive issues.

Emerging from the latest meeting held this morning, Washington time, Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian Arab delegation, stated that the Israeli side obstructed any progress in the talks. Al-'Allaf indicated that all the Syrian delegation's efforts to have the Israeli side engage in serious discussion of substantive issues have been in vain. Al-'Allaf said the Israeli conception of the peace process is abnormal; for example, the Israeli side believes that UN Security Council Resolution 242 does not demand that Israel withdraw from the Arab territories it occupied by force in 1967. Al-'Allaf asked: In view

of this understanding of the peace process and Resolution 242, what kind of discussion can we have?

Prior to today's meeting, al-'Allaf made a statement to reporters. Responding to a question on his meeting yesterday with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, al-'Allaf said that during the meeting, the U.S. secretary affirmed the United States' support and backing, given that it is one of the two cosponsors of the peace conference. He added: Mr. Baker informed us of the U.S. Administration's continued commitment to honor the pledge it made since the beginning of the peace process and that it will continue to be a catalyst for this process.

Responding to a question on whether Baker made any proposals to boost the peace process, al-'Allaf said: We did not discuss such details. However, Mr. Baker praised the Syrian Arab delegation's position at this talks and asked us to exercise patience and continue efforts until the aspired end is achieved.

Criticizes Israeli Attitude

JN1601111492 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1015 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Text] Washington—Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian Arab delegation to the Washington peace talks, has stressed that the outcome of the three rounds of talks with the Israeli side, beginning with Madrid and including the two recent rounds in Washington, demonstrates that Israel views the talks with the mentality of someone who does not want the current peace process to actually realize peace.

During a news conference in Washington yesterday, al-'Allaf explained that a close follow-up of the Israeli course since the beginning of the peace process shows that the Israelis are proceeding along two parallel lines. Outside the negotiating rooms they committed all sorts of provocative and aggressive actions prior to and during the various rounds of talks. Inside, they have resorted to being absolutely negative and ineffectual, distorting facts, procrastinating on anything that would prevent the talks from making any progress.

Al-'Allaf stressed that the Arabs are well aware of the aims of this Israeli game. They are determined, however, to deny the Israelis the chance to realize their aims by continuing the talks in the hope that the European Community and the cosponsors of the peace conference, who are responsible for rendering the peace process a success, will eventually convince Israel to comply with the will for peace.

Opposes Timing of Multilateral Talks

NC1501200992 London MBC Television in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Interview with Dr. Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian delegation, by unidentified MBC correspondent in Washington; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Al-'Allaf] All I can say here is that such incidents [reference to the attack on an Israeli bus in Ramallah on 14 January] should not be surprising because the presence of Israeli settlers in such a provocative manner in the occupied Palestinian territories undoubtedly leads to confrontations of this kind, especially as we recently have heard that these settlers are now publicly carrying around weapons and wreaking vengeance and oppression on the Arab citizens. Therefore, it is not unusual that we react to this settlement drive.

[Correspondent] About this round of the peace march, how far have we come and what do you expect from it?

[Al-'Allaf] Unfortunately, we have not gotten very far due to the maneuvering position Israel has adopted and the Israeli delegation's continuous insistence on discussing marginal issues or issues unrelated to the peace march. Sometimes, they jump to issues that are considered results of peace, such as the recognition of legitimacy and sovereignty, signing peace agreements, and so on, which we cannot discuss before the peace process is successful and before Israel proves it will withdraw from all the occupied Arab territories and respect the rights of the Palestinian people.

So far, nothing has been offered by the Israelis to affirm this position. The Syrian position continues to adhere to the principle that some progress must be made in Washington before the multilateral talks in Moscow. Syria is not opposed to the multilateral talks; it is opposed to the timing. How can one discuss issues dealing with regional economic, environmental, water, and disarmament cooperation with a state that continues to occupy Arab territory, Jerusalem, the West Bank, the Golan Heights, the Gaza Strip, and southern Lebanon? We cannot reward a country like Israel for its occupation and violation of Arab human rights in all these occupied Arab territories by giving it a pledge of regional cooperation, ending the boycott, and cooperating on environmental and water issues. It might be appropriate to postpone these talks for some time so that some progress can be achieved.

Lebanon's Envoy Says Israel Suspends Talks

NC1501202592 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] The Lebanese-Israeli round of negotiations ended approximately 10 minutes ago. Following the meeting Ambassador Suhayl Shammas, head of the Lebanese negotiating delegation, said: With much regret, I announce that the negotiations were unilaterally suspended by the Israeli side. They have decided to leave Washington and we, as a Lebanese delegation, did not agree with them on this decision.

Shammas added: We thought that the negotiations should be held between two sides and not just one side. The decision to stop the negotiations was theirs, not ours. We do not believe that such a step could serve the peace process for which we have all worked seriously and

for which the two co-sponsors, particularly the United States, worked more seriously. Shammas added: What is worth mentioning is that the United States has exerted all efforts to attain this difficult goal. We have decided to continue the peace efforts and we hope that the lesson will be beneficial in the coming rounds of talks; that is to say, that the nature of the talks should be decided by the two sides, not only by one side.

Shammas added: I would like to stress that I was told by my government to stay in Washington until the Lebanese Government decides when the delegation should return to Lebanon. He added: We will be here tomorrow, but naturally, we will not come to the U.S. Department of State because we were told by the Israeli side that they would leave Washington. We are here and ready for negotiations at any time, he added.

Levi Sees No Impact on Talks by Tehiya Threats

TA1501183992 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1705 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Interview with Foreign Minister David Levi by Sheli Yehimovich at Ben-Gurion Airport—live]

[Text] [Yehimovich] Mr. Levi, there have been two serious attacks with live ammunition in the past 24 hours. At the same time, Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation, has announced that the Palestinians will quit the talks if Israel does not announce an immediate halt to settlements. Where do all these incidents leave the political process?

[Levi] It is our duty to do everything possible so that those who attack our people, both Jews and Arabs, fail. We must take firm and strong action to do away with them and the threat they pose. Indeed, they pose a threat that we must fight with all our might.

On the other hand, no preconditions should be attached to the talks to promote the peace process. From the outset, that has been the premise of the entire process. If they have a problem, they should raise it. If, however, they say Israel should accept a certain condition or else there will be no talks, they will undermine the political basis to which they committed themselves. I am confident that the Americans, too, remain faithful to the principle that there should be no preconditions or ultimatums. We should go ahead with the talks, we should proceed with the discussions without any ultimatums or preconditions.

[Yehimovich] There is an argument in Israel, partly semantic and partly substantive, as to whether what we are discussing with the Palestinian delegation is self-government, self-administration, or autonomy.

[Levi] I propose that we stop playing hide-and-seek. The government will not change its position, renege on its political initiative, or fail to propose what it intended and promised to propose because someone threatens to make some political move. Autonomy is mentioned in the government's basic guidelines, and our entire political initiative is based on it. In fact, we have an international commitment with regard to autonomy. Therefore, if the Palestinians do not try to pull a fast one on us and if the Arab countries do not put up new hurdles and we make progress in the talks, what we will propose is the autonomy that appears in our peace initiative. It is the basis for this entire political process, which enjoys international support. After all, it is inconceivable that, to meet the demands of someone, the government—and the Likud, first and foremost—should renege on autonomy.

[Yehimovich] Nevertheless, we know that as the political process advances the right-wing Tehiya and Moledet will quit. In that case, the government will lose its coalition, and, consequently, it will be unable to proceed with the negotiations. So, what will happen then?

[Levi] When those parties joined the government, they were fully aware of the position of the Likud and its partners and the government's basic guidelines, although they had reservations about autonomy. It is inconceivable that they should make threats and that we should break up the peace process as a result. We remain faithful to our way. I hope that common sense will prevail and that they will not bolt the government.

Israel will not walk out of the talks of its own volition. Israel will not change its political position and will certainly not quit the peace process because of this problem.

Israeli Proposals to 'Palestinian Delegation'

TA1501212592 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2100 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] At the request of the Palestinians, Israel has changed the title of the document containing the proposals for an agenda submitted to the Jordanians and the Palestinians. The document presented by the Israeli representatives is now entitled: Presented to the Palestinian Delegation. Ambassador Zalman Shoval asserted that the content of the proposals had not been changed in any way.

Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that Israel rejected the Palestinian demand to discuss the question of the settlements, saying there is only one issue on the agenda at the moment: discussing an interim arrangement for self-government.

Ambassador Zalman Shoval said that any discussion pertaining to the future of the territories would only take place in the third year of the interim arrangement.

The Israeli delegation and the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation will meet tomorrow to discuss the venue of the next round of talks. The Israeli representatives to the talks extended their stay in Washington by one day. They will depart for Israel tomorrow evening.

Shoval on Early Elections, Talks

TA1601073792 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Telephone interview with Ambassador Zalman Shoval by Yaron Wilensky—live]

[Text] [Wilensky] Good morning, Ambassador Shoval.

[Shoval] Shalom.

[Wilensky] Before we discuss the peace negotiations, I would like to refer to reports in Israel this morning that early elections seem inevitable after Tehiya quit and Moledet will apparently follow. As you are familiar with the reality here, do you believe that peace negotiations could be held six months before elections?

[Shoval] Yes, they certainly could. According to the administrative method in Israel, there is always a government in power, even if it is a government ad-interim. Also, developments may still allow this government to stay in power. In any event, we have the government policy and guidelines, and until another government is established, those guidelines remain.

[Wilensky] So you see the negotiations continuing even in a pre-election situation?

[Shoval] This is for the government to decide, but I do not see any reason why matters of national importance, such as peace and a peace process, should suffer from political ups and downs.

[Wilensky] About the talks themselves, could you point out the important part of the current negotiations, beyond the fact that we went into the negotiating room with the Jordanian-Palestinian team? What do you see as mot important in terms of substance?

[Shoval] I believe that importance lies, if not in substance, in the fact that the Israeli and the Jordanian-Palestinian delegations reached agreements without U.S. intervention. This proved that when the external body does not intervene, both sides can still reach agreements, even if this is not easy. I believe this is one important point. The second is that the talks with the Jordanian-Palestinian team will end tomorrow with no particular crises. In fact, we already anticipate the renewal of the talks, sometime next month, when we are closer to substantial issues, although perhaps we will not deal with the actual substance.

[Wilensky] Still, on the issue of substance, there are reports here concerning self-government leading to autonomy. How far has the Israeli delegation gone on this issue?

[Shoval] The Israeli delegation went as far as presenting a detailed agenda to both parts of the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation; the Jordanian part was offered suggestions for negotiations on a peace accord between the two states; the Palestinian track was offered an agenda according to which, in time—if it is accepted, which will require lengthy deliberations between the parties—we will reach negotiations on the substance.

[Wilensky] Does this offer contain details of what Israel is offering in terms of self-government?

[Shoval] Naturally, a political agenda refers to more detailed issues. Obviously, this whole stage of the negotiations is termed negotiations toward an interim stage, so to speak, or an interim process of self-government. We mentioned the issues that will have to be discussed—such as agricultural, municipal, economic, education issues, and so on—and also those issues that in no way will be included in this discussion. For now, however, this is nothing more than an outline.

[Wilensky] Where will the next round of talks be held?

[Shoval] This has not yet been decided. We will address it tomorrow in the session of what we call the pleaum, meaning a meeting between the Israeli and the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegations.

[Wilensky] Will Israel insist that it not be held in Washington again, but move to the region?

[Shoval] Israel is guided by a government decision on this, and we will try to follow those guidelines saying that the negotiations have to move to the region or get close to it. This naturally cannot be a one-sided decision on our part; it needs the other side's approval. I hope, however, that there is more readiness on the other side to accept the Israeli offer—not by all the Arab parties perhaps, but some of them.

[Wilensky] Mr. Shoval, thank you.

[Shoval] Thank you.

Ben-Aharon Comments on 'Positive Side' of Talks

TA1601065292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0505 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Interview with Yosi Ben-Aharon, director general of the Prime Minister's Office and head of the Israeli delegation, by 'Oded Ben-'Ami in Washington on 15 January—recorded]

[Text] [Ben-'Ami] Mr. Ben-Aharon, at the conclusion of this round of peace talks, could you point to any breakthrough?

[Ben-Aharon] First, I believe that on the positive side, we have to note the fact that there were no crises or freezes. This is what we reported to Secretary of State Baker, with whom we met yesterday morning. I also believe that the Arab side cannot claim that anything happened that could be termed a crisis—unless it chooses to engage in propaganda. Second, I believe that in all the teams, progress has been made in the sense that we went deeper into investigating each other's intentions and views of the problems. I would not like to downplay any of the discussions, mainly the one my team held with the Syrians. After all, we have never met the Syrians at the

same table since the state of Israel was founded. Third, concerning the Jordanian-Palestinian team, we feared crises were possible because of the Arabs, but thanks to the perseverance and patience of the Israeli team, headed by Elyaqim Rubinstein, we may congratulate ourselves on the fact that we did not budge an inch on issues of substance. We made the other side enter the negotiating room and refer to substance. Now, they will be able to see what we mean when we talk of interim arrangements when we reach a discussion on this issue.

[Ben-'Ami] Were you surprised by the way the Palestinians conducted the negotiations, by the fact, for example, that they insisted on receiving a document with Israel's suggestions for the agenda addressed to the Palestinian delegation, and Israel accepted? Were you surprised by the way the negotiations were conducted?

[Ben-Aharon] It was not surprising at all. After all, from the moment they took the international podium in Madrid—viewing this as a major step that gave them a push toward their own desires, meaning an independent Palestinian state—they stuck to this achievement, trying to translate it into real achievements at every step to express progress toward the Palestinian entity. This will in no way happen. They, however, stick to their own positions, and we will have to deal with that by curing them of their euphoria, time after time, and taking them down to the more realistic level, because, after all, what the state of Israel is willing to give the Palestinian population of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip is only what the Israeli Government has decided or will decide. This is well known.

Says U.S. Must Intervene on Venue

TA1601080692 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0700 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Text] In Washington last night, the Israeli and Palestinian delegations discussed the offers pertaining to the interim arrangements for self-government as presented by Israel. After the talks, Yosi Ben-Aharon, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, said Israel has proven that it does not give up on issues of substance.

Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that this time, the discussion was businesslike, after the stormy session the day before. This afternoon, the plenum of the Israeli and Jordanian-Palestinian delegations will reconvene to determine the venue for the next round of talks.

Yosi Ben-Aharon said, however, that apparently they will not manage to determine a venue acceptable to all the parties; the Americans will have to intervene on this issue, to our dismay.

Arab Delegation Heads Review 15 Jan Meetings

JN1601071092 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0505 GMT 16 Jan 92

[George Tarif dispatch from Washington]

[Text] The Jordanian and Israeli delegations will hold a session today within the Jordanian-Israeli track to complete talks on the agenda in order to attain peace in the Middle East. This meeting will be preceded by a general meeting of the three delegations: Jordanian, Palestinian, and Israeli.

The Jordanian and Israeli delegations have held two sessions, one yesterday and one the day before. The Jordanian side noted that points of disagreement existed between the two sides.

At the end of the second session, Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali [head of the Jordanian delegation] said:

[Begin al-Majali recording] We met this morning [15 January]. We discussed one of the topics on the possible agenda and exchanged views in a serious and acceptable manner. We hope to meet tomorrow at 0830, probably in a general meeting, followed by a meeting along the Jordanian-Israeli track.

We met with U.S. Secretary Baker for half an hour or more. We discussed what has taken place thus far. He stressed to us that the United States—represented by the President and secretary of state—supports the process and that the U.S. position has not changed one iota.

We will discuss the settlements because cause us harm; they are one of the main topics on our agenda. [end recording]

The Palestinian and Israeli delegations held a third session of talks during which they discussed the agenda. Speaking to journalists after the session, Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation, said:

[Begin 'Abd-al-Shafi recording] We held a short session and discussed the agendas presented by the two sides. Our position was that we consider the settlement issue is a major question that must be listed on the agenda. The Israeli position was the same as yesterday; namely, it objects to placing the issue of settlements on the agenda. We decided to give the Israeli side the opportunity to study the agenda presented by the Palestinian delegation and our view of the transitional period as we have presented it. We will continue our discussion in the next session of meetings that will follow. There will be no other meeting within this phase because the Israeli delegation will leave tomorrow [16 January]. [end recording]

During a news conference yesterday, Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian delegation, voiced his disappointment over not continuing the talks in Washington and with Israel's intransigent position on peace. He noted that the Syrian delegation had held only three sessions with the Israeli delegation during which no progress was made because substantive issues were not discussed. He noted that the Israeli delegation focused on its desire to leave and on its suggestion to move the talks from Washington to the Middle East or any other venue close to the Middle East. Al-'Allaf said: Through its position, Israel is opposing the world and international legitimacy,

because it refuses to discuss the issue of withdrawal and because it is attempting to obstruct peace. He also noted that Israel has asked Syria to recognize Israel before beginning to discuss the issue of withdrawal. He also noted: We have not reached an agreement, but we will not allow Israel a chance to escape from peace.

As for the Lebanese delegation, it only held two sessions during the second round of Washington talks during which no progress was made.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab Parliamentary Union Delegates Arrive in Libya

Unionist Alliance Party Arrives 13 Jan

LD1401124292 Tripoli JANA in English 1723 GMT 13 Jan 92

[Text] Tripoli, Jan. 13, (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY)—The secretary general of the Unionist Alliance Party, Khaled Mahiyeddin, [name as received] and the delegation of his company arrived this morning in Tripoli to take part in the meeting of the 21st session of the council of the Arab Parliaments Union to be held in Great Jamahiriyah.

In a statement to JANA's correspondent, Khaled Mahiyeddin declared: "The Egyptian parties decided to stand in solidarity with Great Jamahiriyah against the American and British fabricated allegations directed against Great Jamahiriyah."

Syrian on 'Falsehood' of U.S. Claims

LD1401125192 Tripoli JANA in English 0821 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Tripoli, Jan. 14, (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY]—The president of the Syrian People's Council, 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah, and the delegation in his company last night arrived in Tripoli to take part in the emergency session of the Arab Parliament Union to be held in Great Jamahiriyah. He was welcomed at the Tripoli International Airport by the secretary of the General People's Congress and the secretary of the congresses' affairs.

Qaddurah expressed his happiness and pleasure for visiting Great Jamahiriyah to take part in the emergency session for solidarity with the people of Great Jamahiriyah. He stressed the falsehood of America and Britain claims against Great Jamahiriyah.

Yemeni Delegation Arrives

LD1501103592 Tripoli JANA in English 1422 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Tripoli, Jan. 14 (JANA)—The chairman of the Deputies Council in the Republic of Yemen, Yasin Sa'id al-Numan, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Tripoli last night on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah. They will participate in the proceedings of the emergency session of the Arab Parliamentary Union Council.

He was received at the airport by the secretary of the General People's Congress.

The chairman of the Deputies' Council in Yemen made a statement to JANA saying that his participation in the emergency session comes as an expression of the solidarity of the Arab people in Yemen with the people in the Great Jamahiriyah against the fraudulance of the U.S.-British allegations against the Great Jamahiriyah.

PNC Chairman Declares Solidarity With Libya

LD1501122592 Tripoli JANA in English 0901 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Tripoli, Jan. 15 (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY]—The chairman of the Palestinian National Council [PNC] 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih confirmed that the convening a special session of the Parliamentary Union is meant to confirm the solidarity of the Arab people with the Great Jamahiriyah against the false U.S.-British allegations.

In a statement to JANA he added that Arab attendance and the holding of this session confirms our stand beside the Great Jamahariyah against the U.S.-British false and unjust allegations.

Initial Proceedings of APU Meeting Reported

Opening Speeches Made

LD1401201592 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1715 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Report by unidentified correspondent from Arab Parliamentary Union emergency meeting in Tripoli on 14 January]

[Excerpts] The proceedings of the emergency session of the Arab Parliamentary Union [APU] Council opened this evening in Tripoli, with the participation of all Arab parliaments which are members of the union, under the slogan "Support for the Libyan Arab People in Confronting the Fabricated U.S. and British Allegations Against the Great Jamahiriyah."

At the beginning, [Speaker of the now dissolved Algerian National Assembly] Abdelaziz Belkhadem, former chairman of the [APU] Council, called for the uniting of Arab stances and for establishing formulas to confront challenges. He said that the meeting today was to forestall a threat that was lying in wait for the Arab nation through the accusations and allegations that eluded all rational and logical facts, and which were directed at the Great Jamahiriyah. He stressed that the fabricated accusations were nothing but an attempt to destroy the principled stance adopted by the Great Jamahiriyah with regard to its freedom, and that of the Arab nation and the unity of its homeland. He highly appreciated the responsible and wise position adopted by the Great Jamahiriyah:

[Begin Belkhadem recording] Libya has rejected the accusations levelled against it, and opened a judicial investigation about the subject. It has agreed to the participation of British, American, and French judges in the investigations underway with the two accused of blowing up the two American and French planes. The UN human rights organization has called for continuing investigations, but the American Administration is still rejecting all these proposals which are in line with international law. This, once again, confirms that it only wants to exploit this incident—which several other states and organizations had already been accused of causing—in order to subjugate the fraternal Jamahiriyah, and influence its policies and options.

On this occasion, we cannot but praise the responsible and wise position adopted by Libya to this question, and we hope that the other parties will understand this calm Arab position. From a position of nationalist and religious leanings, of which we are proud, and from a position of the responsibility whose consequences we should bear with all sincerity and trust, we ought to declare our solidarity with the People's Jamahiriyah, in words and in deeds, in the face of the threats laying in wait for it and for us. And we must, and this is most important, mobilize our masses and make them aware of the coming threat, and turn our solidarity into tangible measures in which we make clear all the possibilies available to this nation, in order to ward off the danger, and protect this fraternal country, its achievements and options. And we must put pressure on our governments so that they carry out all that is likely to realize what we aim for in our resolutions and recommendations.

It remains that one of the strong points of our position is to make the conspirators and plotters realize that an aggression against Libya, God forbid, will not take place, and that if, God forbid, it does, then it will be an aggression against all the Arab nation, and we will not remain with arms folded if the plotters perpetrate their crime. [end recording]

After that, the chairmanship of the council of the union went to the speaker of the Syrian parliament who said: [Begin Syrian speaker recording] This presence gives the full proof of the fact that our nation is a one Arab nation which always responds to the call and which always meets over good and generous issues. We have come here on the soil of the Great Jamahiriyah to announce our solidarity with our brother, good, constructive, and generous people. We say to it: We are with you in happy times, and when threats loom in the horizon, we are with you, and we will walk before you. This is our fate which we have chosen willingly and with determination. [end recording] [passage omitted]

The secretary of the General People's Congress [GPC] said:

[Begin GPC secretary recording] We have dealt with the issue calmly and in conformity with international legitimacy and the texts of the constitutions of these very countries to put the issue in its legal or political framework. They said: The issue is a legal one and no political mediation can be accepted in it. We have welcomed this, because when the issue is considered as legal, then the truth will be revealed, and our aim is to reveal the truth. The stand of the Western countries compels us, the Arabs, to stand in one rank in facing up to this arrogance and this injustice which shows disdain to the international legitimacy and the countries' sovereignty, and behaves under the effect of the madness of power disregarding laws, logic and conventions. Brothers, we are called to unite so as to face up to all possibilities in order to show to them that we are one nation, and should one part of it be faced to any unjust aggression, it will rise like one man in the face of this aggression to bring it to failure. [end recording]

APU Head Vows To Back Libya on Lockerbie

LD1501130792 Tripoli JANA in English 0900 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Tripoli, Jan. 15 (JAMAHARIYAH NEWS AGENCY)—The secretary general of the Arab Parliamentary Union [APU], 'Abd-al-Rahman Bourawi asserted Arab parliamentarians would stand beside the Great Jamahariyah against the false U.S.-British allegations.

In a statement to JANA, the secretary general of the Arab Parliamentary Union strongly condemned the false U.S.-British allegations against the Great Jamahariyah.

Participating Delegates Listed

LD1501184192 Tripoli JANA in English 1451 GMT 15 Jan 91

[Excerpts] Tripoli Ay-Yannar [Jan] 15, JANA-ARAB MAGHREB UNION—the proceedings of the emergency session of the Arab Parliamentary Union started yesterday in Tripoli. [passage omitted] 'Abd-al-Qadir al-Janbi, the secretary of the Iraqi National Council also gave a speech in which he said that the British and American allegations made against the Jamahiriyah are false and fabricated, aimed at striking at the Arab world in its' entirety with the intention of bringing this nation to its' knees and to strengthen the Zionist entity in the region.

The president of the Palestine National Council, Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, for his part, said in his speech that we don't kill innocents and we don't support their killing making clear that the Palestinian people are exposed to torture and racist actions carried out by the Zionist enemy's gangs. He further said that we are with the Great Jamahiriyah because she is in the right. We declare our full solidarity with the Great Jamahiriyah against any attempt to deprive her of her sovereignty or her pride. He then called upon the Council to adopt a resolution of solidarity with the Great Jamahiriyah confirming the necessity of adhering to the international laws and conventions which the Great Jamahiriyah called upon to adopt.

z'Abd-al-Karim al-Jahidla, on behalf of the Kuwaiti National Council, gave a speech in which he expressed thze stance and the solidarity of the Kuwaiti people with their brothers, the Libyan Arab people in their resistance to the allegations which attempt to deprive her of her sovereignty and her achievements. He also said that we are against international terrorism and that no country has the right to try any national of any other country, outside its' territory and in his speech he called upon all liberals in the world to stand with the Great Jamahiriyah against the fabrication of allegations and praised the Great Jamahiriyah saying that we in Kuwait will defend her with our blood.

Those attending the opening session of the deliberations of the emergency session of the Arab Parliamentary Union included the secretary general of the Arab Parliamentary Union, the assistant to the secretary general, the president of the heads of diplomatic missions accredited to the Great Jamahiriyah, correspondents of Arab news agencies and newspapers.

It should be noted that those who took part in the proceedings of this emergency session of the Arab Parliamentary Union were the following delegations: The Jordanian Council of Deputies The Iraqi National Council The Egyptian People's Council The Kuwaiti National Council The Palestinian National Council The Council of Deputies in Yemen The Lebanese Council of Deputies The Syrian People's Council The Tunisian Council of Deputies The National Assembly in Djibouti The Moroccan Council of Deputies The Algerian National Popular Council The General People's Congress in the Great Jamahiriyah.

Session Ends; Resolutions Issued

LD1501213392 Tripoli Great Jamahiriyah Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Excerpt] The Arab Parliamentary Union [APU] concluded its emergency session in Tripoli today. At the end of its proceedings it issued the following resolutions:

The APU Council convened in its 22d extraordinary session in Tripoli, in the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, on 14 January 1992. The APU Council is mindful of the great responsibility laid on its shoulders in its capacity as the embodiment of the will of the Arab nation, and the mouthpiece of the conscience of the peoples which it has the honor to represent. It has studied in depth ways of dealing with the dangerous problem resulting from the accusations directed against sister Libya, in relation to the incident of the two planes. It declares its full concern for safeguarding the sovereignty, security, safety, and stability of the Jamahiriyah, and stresses that its concern for the rights of the brotherly Libyan people and their interests emanates from a principle it abides by in respecting the rights of the peoples of the world and their interests. It asserts its rejection of threats, terrorism, and the use of force and blockade in International relations, and declares its respect for international legitimacy based on international law and human rights and the UN Charter. It therefore:

First, declares its support for the Libyan Jamahiriyah in its just position, and the stand of the Arab people beside it in defending its sovereignty over its territory and people and in protecting its rights and interests in the face of threats of aggression;

Second, condemns threats, in all their manifestations, which are directed against the Jamahiriyah, as they constitute violations of international legitimacy and aggression against the national sovereignty of the Jamahiriyah;

Third, praises the responsible approach which the Jamahiriyah has adopted in dealing with the crisis positively, flexibly, and moderately, and accepting neutral international arbitration, as an expression of its attachment to its sovereignty and its commitment to international legitimacy;

Fourth, notes the positive stands contained in the resolutions supporting the Jamahiriyah, which were issued by the Council of the Arab League in Cairo, the Islamic Conference Organization summit in Dakar, the Organization of African Unity, the Council of Arab Ministers of Economy, the Council of Arab Interior Ministers, and the Council of Arab Foreign Ministers in Tunis, and notes in particular the resolution issued by the Arab League dated 5 December 1991, and its contents relating to the avoidance of any military or economic measures against the Jamahiriyah;

Fifth, expresses admiration for the support for the Jamahiriyah's position, and the rejection of threats against it, expressed by many Arab, Islamic, and international popular organizations, and calls on those organizations to remain in full readiness to move to support the Jamahiriyah and repel aggression against it, by all ways and means;

Sixth, declares its express and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its manifestations, whether committed by individuals or groups or independent sovereign states;

Seventh, calls on the UN Security Council not to give a crime a political character, and urges it to help in providing a neutral international investigation and to condemn the use of military force or economic blockade against the Jamahiriyah, because this constitutes aggression against the sovereignty of a UN member state and an unwarranted intervention in its internal affairs. It also constitutes support for an accusation that has never been confirmed by a neutral body;

Eighth, believes that the method of dialogue, self-restraint, and respect for international legitimacy and its application in accordance with unified criteria in the various cases is the ideal way to reach a just solution to

this crisis that faces the international community and to activate the UN role in confronting crises and solving them peacefully;

Ninth, entrusts the presidency of the union and the general secretariat with the following tasks:

a. Forming Arab parliamentary delegations to make contacts with the parliaments of the United States, Britain, France, Russia, and China, as well as the International Parliamentary Union and the parliamentary unions of Africa and Latin America, with a view to explaining the dimensions of the political and economic pressures to which the Jamahiriyah is being subjected, and the threats of aggression and the increasing tension in the region which may ensue, and to acquaint them with the positive measures taken by Libya, including Libya's stated desire to cooperate with the American, British, and French judiciary , and with any other neutral international body, with a view to ascertaining the truth;

b. Informing the UN secretary general, the president of the UN General Assembly, the president of the UN Security Council, and parliaments of all states in the world, of these resolutions;

Tenth, calls on Arab parliaments to meet immediately if aggression is committed against the Jamahiriyah or it is blockaded, in order to take the stand dictated by the one Arab destiny, and to confront aggression at the governmental and popular level.

Eleventh, the extraordinary session is deemed open in order to follow the developments of the crisis and to be ready to take appropriate measures as necessary. [passage omitted]

Iraqi Delegate Asks ICO To Help Lift Blockade

JN1601103292 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2145 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jan (INA)—Iraq has asked the second information ministers conference of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] to adopt a resolution calling for lifting the economic blockade imposed on Iraq, particularly the restrictions on importing materials, equipment, and tools necessary for the media.

In a speech delivered at the conference, which opened in Cairo today, Nuri Najm al-Marsumi, first under secretary of the Culture and Information Ministry, said [words indistinct] in the international balance requires fresh efforts from our people to resist attempts at hegemony, domination, and exploitation of nations and peoples.

The Iraqi official said that at the forefront of the effo . to realize this objective are the cultural and information organizations, whose role is to highlight facts and prevent obscurantism, deepen awareness and knowledge, and create and improve material and human resources.

The Iraqi delegate asked the conference to work to lift the blockade and restrictions on importing materials, equipment, and tools necessary for the media, and consider that the continuation of the blockade might lead to a complete paralysis of the culture and information media with all the subsequent serious harm this will cause to people in the information, cultural, social, and educational fields.

In a separate memorandum, the Iraqi delegation explained the effects of the economic blockade on the culture and information media in radio, television, and the press; in the printing of cultural and school textbooks; and in communicating with the outside world [word indistinct].

The conference opened in Cairo today. Reports and papers related to the first conference were presented and delegates made speeches. The conference will resume its meetings tomorrow evening.

Algeria

Boudiaf Returns To Country, Greets People

LD1601144992 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1410 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Statement by Mohamed Boudiaf, newly appointed head of the Higher State Council, upon returning to Algeria at Algiers' Houari Boumediene Airport—live]

[Text] First, I would like to salute the Algerian people and the people here who represent the Algerian people. I pledge to the Algerian people that I will do my utmost for the sake of the prosperity and well-being of this people, as I did in the past. These are my last words.

It has been 28 years since I was last here; clearly, I am extremely moved. Thanks be to God, this people has triumphed. I am confident that the Algerian people are now, as they were on 1 November, capable of overcoming all difficulties. If what we did in the past was for the unity of the Algerian people, and we did unite them, this people is capable of working miracles. This is all I have to say.

Boudiaf, Others Sworn In

LD1601160792 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1508 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Swearing-in ceremony of members of the Higher State Council by the unidentified president of the Supreme Court, in Algiers—live]

[Text] [Supreme Court president] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, and prayers be upon the most noble among the messengers.

On the basis of the declaration made on 14 January 1992, corresponding to 9 Rajab 1412 H, announcing the creation of the Higher State Council, which is endowed with all the powers and prerogatives given by the Constitution to the president of the Republic, consisting of Messrs. Mohamed Boudiaf, chairman; Khaled Nezzar, member; Ali Kafi, member; Tijani Haddam, member; and Ali Haroun. Proceed all, led by Mr. Chairman Mohamed Boudiaf, to take the constitutional oath, the text of which follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. [Council members repeat sentence by sentence] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, in faithfulness to the major sacrifices, to the souls of our righteous, to the values of our glorious revolution, I swear by Almighty God to respect the Islamic religion and glorify it; to defend the Constitution; to attend to the continuity of the state; to provide the necessary conditions for the normal functioning of the institutions and the constitutional system; to work for the consolidation of the democratic process; to respect the free choice of the people and the institutions and the laws of the Republic; to safeguard the safety of the national territory and the unity of the people and the nation; to defend the basic human rights and liberties of the citizens; to work relentlessly for the development and prosperity of the people; and to strive with all my might to achieve the supreme ideals of justice, freedom, and peace in the world.

O God, show us what is right and bestow on us the blessing of following it, and show us what is unjust and bestow on us the blessing of avoiding it. God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you. [the national anthem is played; Boudiaf is shown shaking hands with the members of the cabinet and senior officers of the armed forces; Boudiaf then leaves the hall without making a statement]

Boudiaf Interviewed on Political Situation

LD1501163892 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Excerpts] Here is information on the exclusive interview with Mohamed Boudiaf by LE QUOTIDIEN D'ALGERIE. The interview is summarized by our correspondent Nouara.

[Begin Nouara recording] The interview was conducted by LE QUOTIDIEN D'ALGERIE, which said in an introduction that Mr. Boudiaf spoke freely about the situation in Algeria from 1962 to 9 January, the date that the interview was conducted at his residence in Kenitra, Morocco. [passage omitted]

In reply to a question on the reaction he was expecting after the death of President Houari Boumediene, Mr. Boudiaf said [word indistinct] rejection of the dictatorship of the one party. Nothing happened, however.

The dialogue covered democracy in Algeria, highlighting a main problem in Algeria, which is the stunning cultural vacuum. Mr. Boudiaf pointed out that democracy without civic sense and freedom without discipline do not mean anything. This does not lead to anything. The proof, says Mr. Boudiaf, is the situation we reached. He concluded that there is no political class in Algeria that puts the interests of Algeria above all else. What is being noticed is the opposite, Mr. Boudiaf says. The Algerian people want a change which is radical. The only party that supports radical change is the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS], because the other parties are divided.

In his interview, Boudiaf affirms that his convictions lie in the people's participation in managing these difficulties; however, the Algerian reality must be taken into consideration.

The Algerians, Mr. Boudiaf adds, lived 30 years under one party without dialogue and without a political culture. The legislative elections arrived and the FIS found a religious pretext to obtain votes.

Mr. Boudiaf wondered about the orientation of youth toward the FIS. What does it see in the FIS? Mr. Boudiaf quoted a view of the late Ferhat Abbas that the ranks of the national movement are composed of a section of shoe shiners and farmers. Mr. Boudiaf said that in reality, the grass-roots of that movement are orientated toward independence. Mr. Boudiaf added that the same

phenomenon is repeated with the FIS: The poor join the party in which they see the solution to their problems.

In his reply to a question about the first round of the legislative elections, Mr. Boudiaf said that they are the choice of the people. Whether good or bad, Mr. Boudiaf says, is something else. After talking about the FIS' view of democracy, which should not be Western, he wondered: What is the democracy it wants? Mr. Boudiaf said: There are matters that are not clear in people's minds. We are not Westerners, but the West has a certain situation, is developed, and has its hands on the international economy. Do we revolt against this order? He concluded by saying that putting an end to the FIS experiment and the continuation of democracy is a contradiction.

To another question on the possibility of a scenario in Algeria similar to that in Yugoslavia, Mr. Boudiaf thinks that this is unlikely. He said that this was also said about the Kabylie region.

He added that we often hold the regime responsible for this situation, but we all shoulder responsibility for this situation. The people must also assume responsibility for this situation, because the people abandoned their rights and went along with dictatorship. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Notes 'Constitutional Vacuum'

NC1501222892 London MBC Television in Arabic 2130 GMT 15 Jan 92

["Full" recording of telephone interview with Foreign Minister Lakhdar Ibrahimi by MBC correspondent 'Arfan Nizam-al-Din; date and place not given]

[Text] [Nizam-al-Din] Good evening, Your Excellency the Minister.

[Ibrahimi] Welcome.

[Nizam-al-Din] There is Arab and international concern, as well as concern by all the brothers who care about Algeria, over what has taken place. How would you describe the situation in Algeria today according to the latest information available to you?

[Ibrahimi] I believe the situation in Algeria, throughout the country, is good and calm. In fact, the concern felt by the brothers in the Arab world mostly reflects feelings of amity, appreciation, and fraternity which we highly appreciate. We would like to assure the brothers everywhere that our situation at present is good and that the authorities are doing their best to keep it that way.

[Nizam-al-Din] Your Excellency the Minister, to date no official explanation has been made about what has happened during the last few days. Could you give a brief explanation about what has happened since the resignation of President Chadli Bendjedid?

[Ibrahimi] Yes. Well, I do not believe... [changes thought] On the contrary, everything was done out in the open. The president's resignation has created a constitutional vacuum, because it came following the end of the term of the National Assembly, the parliament. In addition, there were the elections that were held, which, in a situation such as this one, of course should come to a halt. Now there is a serious attempt not only on the part of the authorities but also by Algerian society as a whole to return as soon as possible to a constitutional situation. We are learning lessons from past grave mistakes and from all our shortcomings in the past years so that a strong, harmonious, and fraternal society can be rebuilt and a political and democratic regime, in the true meaning of the word, established.

[Nizam-al-Din] Are there contacts with the Islamic Salvation Front and the other parties to form a coalition government or to reach some sort of an accord on national unity?

[Ibrahimi] There are contacts with all quarters, be they the parties or the various institutions. As for whether there is talk of forming a new government, I have not heard any. The new council, which is headed by brother Mohamed Boudiaf, is expected to take over and to consider, in conjunction with the other state institutions, the future steps.

[Nizam-al-Din] Who are the members of the council? Mohamed Boudiaf is known as a veteran struggler. Can you give us some information about the council members?

[Ibrahimi] Very briefly, Mohamed Boudiaf is a veteran of the Algerian revolution. As your know, in Algerian history we had the five-member group and the 22-member group which founded the National Liberation Front [FLN] and before it the other institutions that triggered the first spark of the revolution. He is one of these people, and some even say he is the most important of them all. The other members include Ali Kafi, also a veteran struggler who was the commander of the second state, an ambassador, a representative of the Algerian revolution during the interim government in Cairo, and then he was an ambassador in Damascus, Beirut, Tripoli, and Tunis.

[Nizam-al-Din] How long will the emergency period last?

[Ibrahimi] The statement that was issued says that this period will last until the end of 1993 at the most. But we have great hopes that it will end much earlier and will not go beyond the term which brother President Chadli was supposed to stay in office.

[Nizam-al-Din] Mr. Lakhdar, is there fear about the future of democracy in Algeria?

[Ibrahimi] Look. I believe that there are many who are sure that, on the contrary, the new situation will lead, God willing, to the creation of more suitable circumstances to build a real, firm, and stable democracy.

[Nizam-al-Din] As for the parties, will they be dissolved? And what is the fate of the Salvation Front?

[Ibrahimi] All the brothers have a strong desire to preserve... [changes thought] I believe most definitely that nothing can possibly prevent us from respecting the rights of the individual and the rights of man and his freedom of expression. As for the stand concerning persons or groups, be they parties or not, this depends on their behavior. One of the very necessary things in Algeria is the restoration of the prestige of any state and the respect for the law. Whoever respects the law and contributes to building the country will have no problem and will have nothing to fear; nothing will threaten his position in any way.

[Nizam-al-Din] Yes. Are there fears that clashes will occur; are there security problems in the country?

[Ibrahimi] Nothing at all has happened so far. Thus far, some irresponsible written statements have been issued by the Salvation Front. Nevertheless, statements meanwhile have been issued by some officials in the Salvation Front calling for calm. A very encouraging appeal was issued by one of these officials yesterday calling for keeping within the framework of legitimacy and the law. Of course, if this situation continues, there is no fear at all of any undesirable developments. But you are aware that officials made statements in public before and after the president's resignation calling for violence and for not respecting the law. Naturally, when such behavior takes place, the state will be compelled to confront them.

[Nizam-al-Din] Your response brings us to the question of Islam. It is known that Algeria is a Muslim state. Some questions have been raised about the future of Islam in Algeria.

[Ibrahimi] Brother, I always get confused when I am asked such a question, because we are a Muslim people: 99.99 percent of the Algerians are Muslim. We defended Islam when Islam was threatened by non-Islamic forces. The real jihad took place in the past ages up to the Algerian revolution, which, in one aspect, was tantamount to defending Islam. As for the present, we are a Muslim people—Muslims adhering to our religion and performing our religious rites. But some brothers claim that they alone are Muslims and that the rest are atheists. This is unacceptable and I believe that our people do not accept it.

[Nizam-al-Din] Thank you, Mr. Minister. God willing, we will talk to you again.

[Ibrahimi] You're welcome.

FLN Secretary Details Party Stand on Events

LD1501161492 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] The National Liberation Front [FLN] came out today in a way that seemed unusual to the national and foreign journalists who filled the big hall of the party's headquarters in Zirout Youcef, Algiers, where FLN Secretary General Abdelhamid Mehri held a news conference. He was surrounded by all the members of the Political Bureau. It was the general impression of those present that the FLN's new stand indicates that it has moved from a defensive to an offensive position to emphasize that it is not a party that rules, as it has always said, particularly in light of the rapid political developments since the resignation of President Chadli Bendjedid. [sentence as heard]

Although he started calmly, as usual Abdelhamid Mehri's address was decisive in rejecting the new reality. He repeatedly emphasized the need to adhere to constitutional legitimacy, whatever the outcome, in confronting what he termed obscure legitimacy.

The FLN's stand on the latest developments was included in a message addressed by the Political Bureau yesterday evening to the Constitutional Council before the announcement of the Higher Security Council regarding the establishment of a Higher State Council. Here is the text of the message as read by Mehri, with a clarification of the FLN's stand on the developments that have taken place since last night:

[Begin Mehri recording] Chairman of the Constitutional Council: The FLN Political Bureau is basing its overall position on the events witnessed in the country on adherence to the Constitution and the safeguarding of its institutions. Therefore, it believes that it is essential to convey to your honorable council some remarks and views that have been conceived by the Political Bureau while following the current events and their constitutional and institutional impact. These remarks are:

1. Recent experience proves that adherence to constitutional legitimacy, whatever the outcome, helped get the country out of some of the crises that it has been experiencing. This adherence to constitutional legitimacy is absolutely essential to confront the theories denying that legitimacy and hoping to replace it with an obscure legitimacy.

2. Nonadherence to the Constitution or its freezing take the process of building the Algerian state back to point zero, leave the way wide open for all extremist adventures and theses, make the road to political stability long and arduous, and expose the democratic march to great dangers.

3. Using statutes from the Constitution to treat matters arising from the resignation of the Republic's president while ignoring other statutes in treating other matters addressed in the same context, distort responsibilities and open the door for justifying any initiatives and improvisations, sometimes referring to the Constitution and sometimes on the pretext of political necessity.

4. The Constitutional Council has definitively established the vacancy of the post of president of the Republic and decided it is not possible to designate a successor on the premise of a narrow and literal interpretation of a paragraph from Clause 84. With such a narrow interpretation, it opens

the door for bypassing the Constitution and for appointing an active power that rests on neither the logic nor the meaning of the Constitution.

5. Halting the electoral march without the Constitutional Council having announced the results of its proceedings after examining appeals referred to it concerning the first round of the legislative elections, and without confirming or denying the integrity of those elections, leaves the regrettable impression that events are running a course that will not preserve the Constitution or legitimacy.

Mr. Chairman, please accept my highest respect.

That was the text of the letter. I want to emphasize the following points on the basis of the latest developments:

First, the FLN is profoundly aware of the gravity of the situation in the country. Therefore, its absolute priority is to avoid any act, all parties nothwithstanding, which could open a sequence of violence. The FLN is doing its utmost to see that the political issues being raised may be addressed by political means.

Second, tackling these matters should be done with full clarity. Either we deal with issues from a constituional and institutional point of view—and then this approach has its own logic and the same logic applies to all—or responsibility is taken by whoever wants to bear responsibility for tackling the problems of the country. Thank you. [end recording]

Journalists were then allowed to ask questions. Our colleague Brahim Ziouadj reports:

[Begin Ziouadj recording] The real position of the FLN appeared more in the replies of Abdelhamid Mehri to the questions of journalists. The position comes down to the following:

1. The need to respect the Constitution and to stick to legitimacy.

2. The Higher State Council is considered an effective power but it is not constitutional. Abdelhamid Mehri explained this situation by saying that the the Higher State Council was set up by a consultative body basically composed of members of the government. He added that transferring the country from a one-man and precise presidency to a collegial presidency means moving away completely from the spirit of the Constitution. This formula, as Mehri put it, poses problems if it continues for a long time. The FLN affirms that the Constitution must be followed. In this respect, Abdelhamid Mehri said: So long as the constitutional institutions, among them the National People's Army, are declaring their adherence to the Constitution, I must then ask who made the decision not to abide by the Constitution?

In his reply to a question on the relationship of the FLN with what is now taking place, Abdelhamid Mehri said that the FLN had not been consulted on and was not taking part in the latest developments. In reply to a question on whether the resignation of President Chadli Bendjedid was a resignation or a coup, he said that the FLN did not have any more information than any other side.

In another part of his replies, he pointed out that the situation is complicated: Sometimes there is adherence to the text of the Constitution, and at other times the Constitution is not followed. He said that future developments will clarify this.

Asked if he was privy to the dissolution of the National People's Assembly, Mr. Mehri answered: No. To another question on the possibility of the FLN being dissolved and entering into an alliance with the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS], he affirmed that there was an attempt to link the FLN with the FIS. He said that perhaps this is reminiscent of the proverb about plague and cholera and the need to get rid of them at the same time. [end recording]

FLN, FIS Officials Agree To Continue Dialogue

LD1601070892 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 0600 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Text] A National Liberation Front [FLN] statement said that the first meeting between officials of the FLN and the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] took place yesterday. During this meeting, views were exchanged about the prevailing conditions in the country. The two parties agreed to continue contacts in order to continue the dialogue.

The newspaper ECHAAB, which also reported the news, said that Abdelhamid Mehri, FLN Central Committee secretary general, had previously denied in the news conference that he held yesterday morning any contacts between the two fronts. But the nature of the dangerous circumstances which the country is passing through, inconsistency with the spirit of the Constitution, and the speed of events have led to this meeting taking place.

Islamic Salvation Front Reacts To Events

Hachani Denounces 'Coup'

LD1501204692 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] The Islamic Salvation Front's [FIS] attitude was expressed by Mr. Abdelkader Hachani, an official of the provisional national executive bureau, who held a news conference in the capital this afternoon. He said that the Higher State Council wants to exercise custodianship over the people. Here is our correspondent providing further details on the answers given by Mr. Abdelkader Hachani to journalists' questions:

[Unidentified correspodent] At the headquarters of the wilaya people's council of the city of Algeria, Cheikh Abdelkader Hachani, head of the FIS provisional executive bureau, met this evening with a large number of Algerian and international journalists. Hachani referred at the start of the news conference to the events in Algeria since the start of party activity in its present mode. He said that the FIS is making the news every

time and that here it is this time bringing down the presidency and that it has insisted on maintaining its course regardless of the price.

Hachani described what has happened as unconstitutional and recalled the regime's promise last June that the ballot box will decide. The ballot box has spoken, despite the hotbeds of tension and the gaps, as he put it. The democrats who preserve the freedom of expression, however, moved to say no to the people's freedom and choice, a matter which he described as imposing custodianship over a people who have not yet reached the age of majority. Hachani said that what has happened in the last few days was a carefully worked-out scenario; he made much reference to the constitutional field, describing the existing situation as unconstitutional, and said that the sole body which enjoys constitutional legitimacy is the FIS, as he put it.

As for the Higher Security Council, Mr. Hachani asked: From where did it come in order to impose its custodianship on the Algerian people at a time when the ballot box gave the FIS 188 seats? He said another victory is expected in the second round and it was this that was behind the halting of the elections and the cancelation of the results of the first round.

Hachani said that the resignation of the president of the Republic brought with it the news of the dissolution of the People's National Assembly, and he explained that the speaker of the Assembly heard of this only through national television. Hachani continued to detail the events and demanded a clarification of the real reasons for the resignation of the president of the Republic.

Hachani reached the conclusion that what has happened amounts to a coup against the Islamic state and a coup against the Algerian people; and that the Higher Security Council has no right to suspend the legislative elections, the appeals against the results, and also the presidential elections. He described what has happened as unconstitutional and said that the council has no right to meet at all. Mr. Hachani said that the elected parliamentary bloc, consisting of 231 deputies, will begin to exercise its tasks as a constitutional body chosen by the people.

In conclusion, Mr. Hachani talked about events in the country last night and said that many arrests were carried out nationwide.

The news conference ended with the testimony of Brahmia Ammar, who said that he was harassed by security men.

Hachani Issues Demands

LD1501205492 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in French 2000 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] The Islamic Salvation Front held a news conference this afternoon at the premises of the Algiers town council. We note three basic proposals put forward: The first is that the government should continue with the electoral process because the conditions for this are in place.

The second is that the president of the Constitutional Council should assume the presidency of the Republic during the interim period until the installation of the new National Assembly, and the speaker of the National People's Assembly should then fill the position of head of state during the interim period with the aim of organizing presidential elections within the shortest possible period of time.

The last point is the release of the prisoners, first and foremost the leaders of the FIS.

Finally, the FIS considers the Higher State Council to be anticonstitutional but calls on its members to remain calm.

Front To Take Legal Action on Elections

LD1601151792 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Text] The national radio station has been able to obtain the latest statement by Mr. Abdelkader Hachani concerning his party's position regarding political developments in Algeria and the meeting between the FIS and the leadership of the National Liberation Front [FLN]. He was interviewed by our collegue Mohamed Challouch:

[Begin recording] [Hachani] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In the face of the grave political developments being witnessed in Algeria, the FIS, loyal to its legitimate line of change, which rejects injustice and aggression, irrespective of their source, informs the domestic and foreign public opinion of the following:

1. Loyal to the principle of changing what is wrong, the front has decided to file a lawsuit with the competent quarters to appeal against the legitimacy of the decision to suspend the electoral process despite the fact that conditions to pursue it are available. The front is also appealing against the establishment of what they have termed a Higher State Council.

2. Given that this council lacks constitutional legitimacy, let alone popular legitimacy, which they have trampled underfoot, the FIS does not recognize the legitimacy of any international or regional treaty or agreement, whether economic, political, or of other natures, that the so-called council or any other party concludes outside the framework of legitimacy from the date of the resignation of the president of the Republic.

Likewise, the FIS announces and affirms to the Muslim and loyal Algerian people, and urges it to show caution and vigilance, and not to respond to any provocation from whatever source, in order to deny the opportunity for suspect quarters which are laying in wait [to undermine] its unity, security, religion, and choice.

God knows better. I beg his forgiveness.

[Challouch] Mr. Abdelkader?

[Hachani] Yes.

[Challouch] Can you tell us about the idea of a parallel parliament which you mentioned in your news conference yesterday? Does this mean that the elected deputies will start their work?

[Hachani] What I said yesterday in the news conference was that the 231 deputies who represent the three fronts have legitimacy. Furthermore, they figure in official Gazette No. 1 for this year, and necessity might dictate that they discharge their mission as deputies of the people because they have all legitimacy in this context.

[Challouch] How can this be possible, Mr. Abdelkader?

[Hachani] This will be announced in time, God willing.

[Challouch] Well, what about the meeting with the FLN leadership? Can you tell us how the meeting went, and what did you come out with from this meeting?

[Hachani] There was a meeting between the two parties, between the leaderships of the two parties, and there was an exchange of views, and it was agreed to pursue the dialogue.

[Challouch] Well, and concerning the Socialist Forces Front [FFS], did not you have a meeting with them?

[Hachani] To this day we have not had a meeting with the FFS.

[Challouch] Your comment on the relationship between the FLN and the FFS?

[Hachani] We have no comment to make. We do not know about its content. [sentence as heard] This matter will come in time, God willing. [end recording]

Execution of FIS Leaders Said Imminent

PM1601124892 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in Arabic 14 Jan 92 p 1

['Ali Sadiq report: "Rumors That Madani and Belhadj To Be Executed Today"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Life appeared normal throughout Algeria yesterday while all forces were active making contacts and inquiries and holding meetings to discuss the new situation. A wave of provocative rumors were unleashed, apparently to hasten a confrontation between the Islamic Salvation Front and the authorities after the so-called "Higher National Council" announced on Sunday evening that it was impossible to continue the electoral process "until the necessary conditions exist for the institutions to work normally, as stipulated in the last clause of the Constitutional Council's (previous) statement." It also announced that it would take charge of all matters likely to affect public order and state security.

One of these provocative rumors is that the trial of the two Salvation Front leaders, Abbassi Madani and Ali Belhadj, will take place secretly today and that a death sentence will be issued against them and then carried out immediately. Although such a rumor seems illogical, the Algerians are spreading it on a large scale. [passage omitted]

Security Forces Arrest 133 Persons 14 Jan

LD1501172392 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] The national gendarmerie command announced today that 133 persons wearing Afghan dress were arrested yesterday by joint units of the gendarmerie and police near the el Shafi'i Mosque in El Harrach [Algiers] for carrying out provocative actions.

The communique of the national gendarmerie command pointed out that the operation took place when some of the leaders of the Islamic Salvation Front, at the forefront of whom were Abdelkader Hachani and Mohamed Said, were inside the mosque.

We note that in the same mosque Abdelkader Hachani called on the activists of his party to maintain calm.

Egypt

Israelis Arrested for Planning 'Reprisal' Actions

NC1501161292 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 13 Jan 92 p 15

[Text] Egyptian Interior Minister Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Musa has instructed all Egyptian airports, ports, and points of entry to conduct a thorough search of all Israelis arriving in Egypt. Acting on these orders, the Egyptian security service at Rafah checkpoint in Sinai arrested four extremist Israelis of the Kakh Movement—formerly led by terrorist Meir Kahane, who was killed by Egyptian citizen Sayyid Nusayr in the United States in late 1990—after discovering weapons hidden under their car seats.

The four Israelis were planning to carry out several reprisal operations against certain Egyptians and in crowded areas. This came out in confessions they gave to Egyptian security authorities. The Israelis were transported to Ismailia for further investigation. The security authorities are keeping news of the arrests secret pending the results of the investigation. The Egyptians hope to learn whether other groups are on their way to Egypt to carry out terrorist operations.

The four Israelis confessed that they were ordered to go to Egypt according to instructions from Benjamin Kahane, son of the extremist Rabbi Meir Kahane. They were provided with five M-16 rifles, explosives, a map of their target sites in Cairo, including addresses of the relatives of Sayyid Nusayr, and $10,000 to spend during their stay in Egypt. The Israelis were referred to Ismailia military security for investigation and soon are expected to face trial.

Iraqi Request To Resume Direct Flights Rejected

NC1601100392 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 12 Jan 92 p 1

[Report by 'Abd-al-Nabi 'Abd-al-Sattar]

[Text] The families of Egyptians who died in Iraq during the Gulf war are facing difficulties in getting the bodies of their loved ones back to Egypt due to the lack of direct flights and diplomatic relations between the two countries.

AL-WAFD has learned that to date, Iraqi authorities have been burying the Egyptian dead and advising the Egyptian Foreign Ministry about the date and cause of death. AL-WAFD has also learned that the Egyptian Government has turned down an Iraqi request to resume direct flights between Cairo and Baghdad to facilitate the return of Egyptian workers and bodies.

India To Pursue Common Political, Economic Goals

BK1501032292 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr. Madhavsinh Solanki, says there is no immediate plan to set up diplomatic relations with Israel. He told newspersons in Cairo that the Indian stand on supporting the Palestinian and Arab cause remains unchanged. Mr. Solanki said the change in policy toward Israel will be considered only after the results of the West Asia peace talks become clear. The minister, who is on a four-day visit to Egypt, said New Delhi and Cairo will henceforth actively pursue common political, economic, and diplomatic goals having realized the inadequacy of contacts between the two countries.

Islamic Information Center To Open in Azerbaijan

NC1401152592 Cairo MENA in English 1246 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Cairo, Jan 14 (MENA)—Minister of Information Safwat al-Sharif announced today that Egypt has decided to establish a developed Islamic center in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

He said that constructing this center falls within the framework of the major concern of President Mubarak regarding the current developments in the new Islamic republics in order to give broad and significant information services to these republics.

In a press conference held today at the conferences hall here on the occasion of holding the conference of ministers of information of Islamic states tomorrow, the minister stated that the Islamic center will include a representative of MENA and another of the state information service and an Islamic library to make these republics get acquainted with the Islamic world.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Assures Algeria's Ghozali of Support

LD1501191592 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Excerpt] A telephone conversation took place in the early hours of this morning between the brother leader of the revolution and Algerian Prime Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali. Ghozali reassured the brother leader about the situation in Algeria, and informed him that a council to replace the president of the republic has been established to run the country's affairs during a transitional period, until Algeria dresses its wounds, rises up economically, and resumes its democratic process.

During the telephone conversation, the brother leader stressed to brother Sid Ahmed Ghozali that the Great Jamahiriyah stands with sisterly Algeria and puts all its resources at Algeria's disposal. [passage omitted]

Jallud Comments on Algerian Situation

PM1501140092 Paris LE MONDE in French 15 Jan 92 p 4

[Interview with Major 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud by Marie-Claude Decamps in Rome; date not given]

[Text] Rome—While in Rome, where he went—among other things—to explain to Pope John Paul II his country's position on the Lockerbie tragedy, Libya's second-in-command, Major 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud, confided to LE MONDE some of his thoughts about the Algerian crisis.

According to Libya's second-in-command, the Algerian situation is inseparable from the rest of the Arab world: "What is happening in Algeria," he said, "is merely the result of a lengthy process that is going on in the Arab world. It is the result of the repression inflicted by the West for two centuries, which has resulted in a total cultural alienation for the sake of Western consumerist ideals. Since independence the Arab nations—corrupted by these very ideals—have brandished slogans citing freedom, progress, and democracy which they are unable to achieve. Hence stems a huge frustration and the desire to rediscover their roots, that is, Islam.

"In this sense," he continued, "the Islamic Salvation Front in Algeria is a legitimate movement. Rather, it is fully democratic: Whatever the people choose can only be an expression of democracy." According to Major Jallud, this phenomenon is consistent with historical trends: "Moreover, now, since the Gulf war, the old East-West conflict has been transformed into a North-South conflict and even into a conflict between the Christian West and Islam.

"I firmly believe that if there were free elections in other Arab countries, they would all turn out as in Algeria. In Iraq, for instance, the West and the Americans are subjecting the population to inhuman starvation, and I

am sure that this will some day result in an Islamic upsurge, again due to frustration." When it was pointed out to him that this was perhaps not a very good thing for Saddam Husayn's regime, he added: "Perhaps, but it will not be a good thing for the West, either."

Be that as it may, he said, "there is a general failure of nonconfessional systems in the Arab world, because everything is ultimately assimilated by prefabricated systems imposed by the West. I cannot see any nonconfessional force—in Algeria, for instance—that could assume power and lead the country." So what models should be followed? Iran? "Definitely not. Theocracy is not democracy. In Libya we are not a nonconfessional country and we proceed from the Koran and the shariah. But we have found a balance. The Arab countries need a democratic Islam, an Islam based on dialogue."

Jallud Meets With Arab Ambassadors on Lockerbie

NC1501184492 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Tripoli, 15 Jan (MENA)—Major 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud, member of the Libyan Revolution Command Council, met with the Arab ambassadors and chiefs of Arab diplomatic missions accredited to Tripoli.

MENA has learned that Major Jallud called on the Arab states to act swiftly and (?approach) the world's states regarding the threats directed against Libya. He called on these states to issue a resolution stressing that the American and French airplane incidents are legal, not political, issues. He also called for the formation of a neutral legal committee to consider this issue in cooperation with the International Court of Justice. He also called for contacting the UN Security Council member states on this matter.

International Pressure on U.S., UK Sought

LD1501123792 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Tripoli, 15 Jan (JANA)—JANA has learned from an informed source that Libya has called on the international community to use its moral strength to make the United States and Britain comply with the calls of lawyers and investigators and to cooperate, as Libya has done. Libya wants the United States and Britain to abandon their practices of political, economic, and military terrorism against other countries, forcing these countries to contravene laws and to concede their sovereignty.

Leaked Documents Show 'Innocence' in Pan Am Case

NC1501181092 Cairo MISR AL-FATAH in Arabic 13 Jan 92 pp 1, 2

[Excerpt] Information confirms that U.S. authorities are conducting highly confidential investigations with CIA officials whom these authorities accuse of leaking U.S. documents confirming the Libyan Jamahiriyah's innocence regarding charges of bombing the Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie in 1988. The officials are also accused of making these documents available to some British members of parliament.

The same information confirms that the leaked documents affirm Libya's non-involvement in the incident. The information reveals that the U.S. national security apparatus [name as published] tried to pin the charges on Libya at the wish of the White House, which wanted to punish the Jamahiriyah for rejecting the expansion of U.S. influence in the Middle East. The information points out that the documents include some minutes of the contacts made in this respect between national security apparatus officials and the White House on the one hand and British Foreign Office officials on the other. The leaked information described how the CIA reports claiming Libya's involvement in the incident, as well as the initial reports holding Syria and some Palestinian organizations responsible for the incident, were prepared.

The same information reveals that differences have cropped up recently among some CIA officials, some of whom wanted to remove others from the agency. The information was leaked by some CIA officials who traveled to Britain on a secret mission.

The investigations are being conducted by the U.S. National Security Apparatus outside the judiciary. Information indicates that if the current investigations prove the suspects guilty, the National Security Apparatus might be satisfied with removing them from the apparatus without any further action for fear of attracting publicity to the leaked information and documents. [passage omitted]

Bahrain

Invitation to Moscow Multilateral Talks Received

JN1501183392 Manama WAKH in English 1610 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Manama, Jan 15 (GNA)—Bahrain has received an official invitation to participate in the multilateral talks on the Middle East which will be held in Moscow from January 28 to 29.

The invitation was delivered by the U.S. and Russian Federation ambassadors to Bahrain Charles Hostler and Anatoliy Gavryuchenko during their meeting with Bahraini Interior Minister and Acting Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Khalifah Al Khalifah here today.

They also reviewed the current international situation mainly the peace talks in the Middle East.

Kuwait

Japanese Minister Promises Reconstruction Aid

OW1401155292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1509 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Kuwait, Jan. 14 KYODO—Japanese Trade Minister Kozo Watanabe on Tuesday promised Tokyo to help in reconstructing Kuwait, heavily damaged by the Persian Gulf war, officials accompanying the visiting minister said. [sentence as received]

The commitment came when the Minister of International Trade and Industry paid a courtesy call on Kuwait's Amir (head of state) Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Jabir praised Japan's financial cooperation during the war and the later dispatch of minesweepers to the the Persian Gulf, the officials said.

He also reportedly sought Japan's further cooperation in reconstructing the war-torn Middle East nation.

In reply, Watanabe said Japan hopes to broaden interchanges with Kuwait, according to the officials.

Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sa'ad al-'Abdullah al-Salim as- Sabah, who was present at the Watanabe-Jabir meeting, asked that Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa visit Kuwait.

After the end of the Persian Gulf war last April, the Japanese Government advised domestic businesses to refrain from receiving orders related to the country's reconstruction.

This was in response to demands from the United States and European nations that companies of the countries which had participated in the multinational forces should be given preferential treatment in the rehabilitation of Kuwait.

In November last year, however, the Kuwaiti Government explicitly asked for Japan's cooperation in repairing Japanese-built industrial plants.

Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry responded to the request by setting up a 1 billion dollar trade insurance quota for Kuwait.

During Tuesday's meeting, Watanabe, now on the second leg of a 10-day, three-nation Middle East trip, asked for an extension of Arabian Oil Co.'s oil concessions in Kuwait, due to expire in 2003.

Arabian Oil is Japan's largest oil producer.

In reply, Jabir said he will extend cooperation in the interests of both nations, the Japanese officials said.

Watanabe also met with Oil Minister Hamud 'Abdallah al-Ruqba and detailed Tokyo's plan to accept about 30 Kuwaiti trainees who are to operate the country's oil-refining facilities during Japan's fiscal 1992 which starts in April.

Referring to the restoration of Kuwait's oil production, the oil minister forecast output will recover to 1.5 million barrels per day by the end of this year, coming close the prewar level of 1.7 million barrels, the Japanese officials said.

Consolidation of Trade Ties Sought

LD1501085192 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1535 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Jan (KUNA)—During his talks with Kozo Watanabe, Japanese minister of international trade and industry, Kuwaiti Oil Minister Hamud 'Abdallah al-Ruqba expressed Kuwait's interest in consolidating trade relations with Japan. The Kuwaiti minister noted his country's desire to gradually recover its share in Japan's imports of crude oil and its derivatives as Kuwait's output increases.

Dr. al-Ruqba thanked Japan for its contribution in the war for the liberation of Kuwait. He said Kuwait understands that the Japanese Constitution does not allow the sending of troops abroad. He stated that Japan's contribution nonetheless had a positive effect on this war.

In a statement to reporters at the end of the Kuwaiti-Japanese talks, the Kuwaiti minister pointed out that he gave the Japanese side a brief idea about Kuwait's output. He added that Kuwait is interested in establishing investment in Japan in the refining, storage, and marketing of oil. There are Japanese investments in Kuwait, as represented by the Arab-Japanese Oil Company, and these must be matched by Kuwaiti investments in Japan. He indicated that the Japanese minister expressed an interest in the matter.

Minister al-Ruqba also stressed the need to set up joint ventures either in Japan or Kuwait or between Kuwait and Japan in a third country. He added that the Japanese minister mentioned the subject of training Kuwaiti senior

personnel in Japan, particularly in the field of oil refining. The Japanese minister expressed his country's intention to develop oilwells in al-Khafji and increase their output, an idea that was welcomed by the Kuwaiti side.

Dr. Hamud al-Ruqba also indicated that he discussed with the Japanese side the subject of technological cooperation between the two countries, particularly the assistance the Arab-Japanese Oil Company gives to the Kuwaiti Institute of Scientific Research. He said that he urged the Japanese to offer technological assistance and to set up an economic and scientific committee in charge of the transfer of technology and of economic and technical cooperation between the two countries.

The Kuwaiti minister added that he discussed with the Japanese minister the speeding up signing of an agreement to avoid double taxation between the two countries.

The Kuwaiti oil minister hosted a luncheon in honor of the Japanese minister and his delegation. The luncheon was attended by Japanese Ambassador to Kuwait Korokawa, who also took part in the talks, and senior officials from the Kuwait Oil Corporation.

Government Trying To Limit Foreign Population

LD1501084192 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0730 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Kuwait City, 15 Jan (KUNA)—Planning Minister Ahmad 'Ali al-Jassar said that the Kuwaiti Government is trying to make Kuwaiti citizens form 60 percent of the total population of the country and limit the percentage of foreigners to 40 percent.

Minister al-Jassar said in an interview published here today that Kuwait does not want to revert to the pre-invasion situation and that Kuwaitis must become a majority in their own homeland even if that requires halting expansion in some nonoil sectors of the country's economic structure.

As to the biduns [the have-nots—stateless tribesmen dwelling in Kuwait], the planning minister said that their number in Kuwait is estimated at 100,000 and that the number of Palestinians is less than 40,000. He thus denied a REUTER report citing him as saying that the number of Palestinians is 50,000. He added that the Kuwaiti population has declined to much less than 1 million people, compared with 2.2 million before the crisis.

Mr. al-Jassar pointed out that Kuwait has issued visas to 475,000 foreigners since liberation, 140,000 of whom are government employees and 290,000 who are working for private sector firms. He explained that government ministries used to absorb 146,000 foreigners before the invasion. That was reduced to 38,000 by a government decree requiring that the number be reduced to no more than 35 percent of the previous total.

Qatar

Invitation to Moscow Peace Talks Received

JN1601105792 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0940 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Text] Doha, 16 Jan (WAKH)—Qatar has received an official invitation to participate in the multilateral talks in Moscow on 28 and 29 January.

Qatari Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad Bin-'Abdallah al-Mahmud received the invitation when he met in Doha with the ambassadors of the United States and Russia, cosponsors of the Middle East peace conference.

Saudi Arabia

Authorities Round Up Dissident Imams, Preachers

PM1401163792 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in Arabic 11-12 Jan 92 p 1

[Unattributed "exclusive" report: "Large-scale Arrest Campaign in Saudi Arabia Embracing Mosque Preachers Who Condemned Government's Policy"]

[Excerpts] London—The Saudi security authorities last Monday launched a large-scale arrest campaign in the ranks of mosque preachers and imams in the wake of resentment toward their sermons which have dwelt on the government's departure from the basis and rules of the Islamic shari'a and its adoption of Western policies.

Saudi sources have told AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI that the wave of arrests affected the central region in particular—especially the areas of Riyadh and al-Qasim, where the Wahhabis [reference to Islamic sect of Saudi royal family] originated.

THE NEW YORK TIMES had published a report in its edition of the Tuesday before last in which it spoke of mounting extremist Islamic opposition in the Saudi Kingdom. [passage omitted]

Islamic sources say that most of the Saudi Islamists' criticism is focused these days on the proliferating usury, the lack of Islamic banks, assertions that the country is throwing itself into the lap of the United States, the omission of the word 'jihad' from the Dakar Islamic summit statement, and the kingdom's support for negotiations with Israel and its agreement to participate in the regional multilateral negotiations scheduled for Moscow before the end of this month.

The sources say that the arrested preachers whose names have reached London are: Shaykh 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Salumi (Najran), Shaykh Mashari al-Zayidi (Riyadh), Shaykh Ibrahim al-Hisan (Riyadh), Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim al-Hisan (Riyadh), Shaykh 'Ali al-Khudayri (Riyadh), Shaykh Ibrahim al-'Id (Riyadh), Shaykh

'Abdallah al-'Utaybi (Riyadh), Shaykh Fahd 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Yahya (Riyadh), Shaykh Nasir al-Barrak (al-Bukayriyah - al-Qasim), Shaykh Ibrahim al-Khazim (al-Bukayriyah - al-Qasim), Shaykh Sa'id al-Quwayz (al-Dawwamah), Shaykh 'Abd-al-Malik al-Rayyis (paralyzed—Riyadh), and Shaykh Muhammad al-'Asfur (Riyadh).

According to the same sources, Riyadh airport security authorities have prevented the departure of Shaykh Salman al-'Awdah, lecturer at the Imam Muhammad Bin-Sa'ud University in Baridah and one of the most renowned preachers in the Kingdom. His passport was confiscated on his return from a visit to the United Arab Emirates, where he delivered a lecture entitled "Liberating the Homelands or Liberating the Human Beings?" When his departure was blocked, Shaykh al-'Awdah was on his way to the United States accompanied by Shaykh 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Turayri at the invitation of the Arab Muslim Students' Union. Only Shaykh al-Turayri was permitted to travel.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Azerbaijan

LD1501210992 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1815 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Riyadh, 15 Jan (SPA)—A press statement on the visit by his excellency the prime minister of Azerbaijan to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has been released, the text of which is as follows:

His excellency Mr. Gasan Aziz Gasanov, prime minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan, paid a visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 13 to 14 January 1992, during which he performed the rites of al-'Umrah [minor pilgrimage], and had the honor of visiting the prophet's holy mosque.

Within the framework of this visit, a meeting was held between his excellency and His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al- 'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, during which they discussed ways of strengthening and bolstering bilateral relations, and viewed Islamic and international issues of common concern.

Out of concern of both parties with regard to strengthening brotherly relations and expanding the spheres of cooperation between them, in light of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's recognition of the independence of the republics of the former USSR, and its decision to establish diplomatic relations with the Islamic republics, including the Republic of Azerbaijan, the governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Azerbaijan have agreed to establish diplomatic relations between the two countries, in the hope that this step may lead to strengthening fruitful cooperation between them in all respects, in accordance with the common historic and cultural relations between the two Muslim peoples, and as an embodiment of the aspirations of the two countries for establishing the best of brotherly and cordial relations between them.

[Riyadh SPA in Arabic at 1600 GMT on 15 January adds the following: "Holy al-Madinah, 15 Jan (SPA)—Mr. Gasan Aziz Gasanov, prime minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan, left holy Medina this afternoon after a visit to the Kingdom which lasted a number of days."]

Riyadh, Japan To Study Greenhouse Effect

OW1501044792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0426 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Kuwait, Jan. 15 KYODO—Japan and Saudi Arabia have agreed to launch a joint study on reducing the release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere which apparently contributes to the "greenhouse effect" of warming global temperatures, according to Japanese Government officials.

The officials, accompanying International Trade and Industry Minister Kozo Watanabe on an official visit to the Middle East, said the agreement calls on Japan and Saudi Arbia to develop new oil refining technology to cut the amount of carbon dioxide gases formed by burning crude oil or other fossil fuels.

Details of the joint research will be worked out later at working levels, they said.

Saudi Arabia, the biggest oil-producing country, fears that world oil consumption could shrink and oil's competitiveness with energy alternatives could be lost due to increased environmental concerns, the officials said.

The Japanese trade minister, who flew to Saudi Arabia via London on Saturday, met Saudi Arabia's King Fahd and gave him an invitation from Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa to visit Japan.

Watanabe then traveled to Kuwait, where he is to pay a courtesy call on Kuwait's Shaykh Jabir al-Sabah with a promise of Japanese economic aid to the country, hard hit by the Persian Gulf war, the officials said.

United Arab Emirates

Minister Receives Iranian Petroleum Official

JN1601105992 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0907 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 Jan (WAKH)—Yusuf Bin-'Umayr Bin-Yusuf, minister of petroleum and natural resources, received here today Seyyed Jalil Seyyedzadeh, chairman of the Petroleum Affairs Committee of the Iranian Majles.

Aspects of oil cooperation between the United Arab Emirates and Iran were reviewed during the meeting.

Republic of Yemen

President Salih Confers With DFLP's Hawatimah

JN1501182292 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, today received brother Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP]. The two reviewed the developments of the Palestine question in light of the ongoing peace talks in Washington, and the escalating popular Palestinian intifadah against the Zionist entity in the occupied Arab territories.

During the meeting, the brother chairman affirmed our country's support for the Palestinian Arab people's struggle. He also expressed our country's eagerness to support the peace efforts that guarantee Arab rights, headed by the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil. He pointed out the need to coordinate Palestinian and Arab policies during the peace talks to enhance the Arab position during the current negotiations, and to realize a comprehensive, just, durable peace in the region.

The meeting was attended by brother Mujahid Abu-Shawarib, deputy prime minister for domestic affairs, and 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Hajji, member of the Council of Representatives.

Brother Nayif Hawatimah left Sanaa today following a visit of several days to our country.

Saddam Addresses Youth Delegation on Democracy

JN1501203892 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1840 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Speech by President Saddam Husayn during a meeting with a delegation from the General Federation of Iraqi Youth on 15 January; place not given—recorded]

[Text] I am happy to see those representing our youth as a result of democratic elections. I am also happy to see this organization acting not as an agency of the authority. It is a mass organization in the sense that the Ba'th, and not the party, understands. As you know, and as we explained during the [10th] Regional Congress, the documents no longer concern the party's internal life alone but are the property of the people as a whole. From experience, we believe there is a difference between the individual being a party member only and being a believer in the message of the Ba'th. The message of the Ba'th can be adopted by any citizen, even without being a party member. This is because it is the message of the nation, the people, virtue, amity, and working for the better. From the Ba'th Party's viewpoint, the party constitutes the framework that can prepare the people affiliated with it so that they can become Ba'thists. Therefore, not all party members are Ba'thists, and not all citizens are non-Ba'thists. There are citizens among the people who are Ba'thists, and this has been categorically proven by [words indistinct]. There are party members inside the party who are not Ba'thists, as again was proved by the Mother of Battles.

Therefore, I say that I am pleased that you work among the youth, not as an agency of the authority and not influenced by any of the authority agencies, but rather, you work in the spirit of the youths themselves. One of the problems with youth is that they cannot be absorbed by any framework because the young individual is always, always bigger than any framework—I mean his spirit, energy, ambitions, and clear intentions. But because the state and its agencies cannot function without a framework, and because it has become a state with agencies, there must be a framework, there must be law. This is not an invitation to ignore and not respect the framework of the law. But, I say it is a mistake to confine a young individual to a framework. As long as his energy is directed in the right direction, it will create the framework all by itself. I mean, he will have a framework every day, a framework that follows activity and which does not come before it so as to restrain it.

I am very pleased with this. I am pleased with the fact that you do not come up with preset, binding instructions but rather with ideas. You leave it up to the citizens, if they are convinced of the idea through debate, to choose the best ways and means. That is the spirit of the Ba'th. That is why I always have great confidence in our youth, after a certain age. My confidence—as concerns building, wisdom, concept, imagination, and fighting—is boundless.

What you are doing cannot be faulted. I am pleased that this is the way you think. I have no modifications or remarks to make regarding any of the ideas you voiced except for the remark I made on the experiment about which you are hesitant—namely, the one that you initiated in the agricultural field. Nevertheless, it is a remark which you may or may not accept. The most important point, in which you must take interest when dealing with youth, concerns truthfulness. Do not promise them anything and fail to keep that promise, even if you have to die to keep that promise. Do not accept promises from them. Do not embarrass them by eliciting a promise from them, one that they cannot keep.

Brothers, fresh and vivid thought about life is in itself a product of life, all aspects of life. When man is in a leading position, he benefits from life in that he works hard. As for long practice, it produces habits, some of which are good, while others, may God spare you disgrace, are bad. To prepare the circumstances for man to disregard public property will cause us to lose him. If he maintains the practice, the loss will be for a long time to come. When a man lies, regardless of the circumstances involved, he knows that there is within him a large dent. Thus, he will continue to suffer from a dichotomy between words and deeds. Faith is truthfulness, whereas infidelity is a status of lying. So, when man begins to lie, he cannot be viewed as a faithful person by any standard whatsoever, as faith requires a commitment, a high level of human conduct, a certain level of readiness to make sacrifices to honor this commitment and to act in light of the obligations dictated by this commitment. So, give due attention to the issue of truthfulness and avoid lying.

You would trust a truthful person because you discover him when he becomes angry or satisfied. But, if you are unable to discover him when he becomes angry, you cannot trust him. When you cannot rely on truthfulness expressed by words, you cannot rely on him. I am confident that such a level of thought and such genuine enthusiasm will lead you to this all. In the Arabs' pre-Islamic life, which was bolstered through guidance, people used to say no and to say yes. They were honest when they said no and when they said yes.

Therefore, they used to meet after the death or deposing of a caliph. When the dignitaries of the people pledged allegiance to somebody, he would become a caliph with a clear conscience. But when one of these dignitaries refused to pledge allegiance to him, he continued to be worried—because when he said no, he said no against the authority—until he [the caliph] persuaded him, as he was with [word indistinct].

As a result of the deteriorating circumstances and the quick changes that have occurred in Iraqi society, even after the beloved Iraqi state was established, the yes and the no may sometimes exchange positions, although good people still say yes when they mean yes and say no when they mean no, because when any authority, including the authority which emerged after the 17-30

July [Revolution] and even the previous ones [authorities], faces changes, and when there is a string of rapid changes going on, and when weapons are used, the authority's tolerance of opposition is bound to be shot-lived. Only then will the yes appear as if it had been a no, and the reverse is true.

To be frank and direct, until today the yes and no are sometimes stated to the authority's men in two halves. What is required is that the people should help us and we should help them. By helping us, I do not mean to help me. I also do not mean that I, you, and the people have our own different cases. The term is metaphorical. I mean to help ourselves make the yes and the no clear with their reasons. Among the most important factors that upset the enemies of Iraq, the nation, and the new approach is that over recent years we began to prepare the atmosphere for saying the yes and the no with their reasons clearly to the public in the best possible manner. At a given point in the country's history, there is nothing called the best unless there is a state of stability in the country.

However, just as it has been very sincerely emphasized by all the organizations that all the people should opt for democracy, we refused to nominate any single Ba'thist. The Ba'thists should compete, however, with each other to win a seat within this organization. This, of course, in the experience of the parties which lead or rule, does not exist. It happens now for the first time, and only in Iraq. It exists neither in the West nor in the former communist countries. I mean that members of the same party compete to win one seat and in the same place, and the condition is that there must be more than two. The same applies to the elections which took place in the Legislative Council and the National Assembly.

By saying this, I do not claim that all elections took place the way we had wished. However, if something happens, and it has happened, it happened in the branches and not in the center. This is very important. When the center wants matters to proceed fairly, then any setback should not be counted against it. If a citizen used his influence at the expense of another candidate, then this is not the [center's] business, but it is the business of the quarter where the elections took place, which must not accept this. If a subdistrict administrative officer in one way or another helped candidate X at the expense of candidate Y, then this is not right, but the ones responsible for this are the people. Why did they accept something wrong, especially because the center's instructions were clear? But in the past, elections used to be forged by the center itself. A minister, or a higher-level official in the center, used to give instructions on how the so-and-so representative would win against the so-and-so representative.

It became apparent to the enemies that in Iraq, in addition to the achievements and great accomplishments that you already know about, a serious attempt was undertaken to make yes or no be said clearly and unambiguously. This provoked the enemies. We knew the value of this subject that we are talking about. As youths, you have experienced democratic life. In all experiences in this regard, emergency laws are applied under war circumstances to freeze elections and laws. However, the election experience, and the election of representatives in the best possible manner, in accordance with this orientation, took place during the eight-year war [with Iran] both for the Legislative Council of the Kurdistan Autonomous Region and the National Assembly, which represents the people. More authority was granted than stipulated for by the first law; authorities were expanded. The atmosphere that was provided to enable citizens to express their views correctly was better than before the war.

When character is stable, it cannot be affected by the foreigner. This is a condition that we cannot forsake. There is a difference between he who serves Iraq and he who serves the foreigner. He who serves the foreigner does not have citizenship rights. Hence, he should not demand that his views be heard and expect us to be comfortable while listening to his views. Let him first act as we do, and serve Iraq, and then his views will be treated like the views of any other Iraqi individual. He who bears weapons against the revolution is not entitled to ask us to be democrats. As for he who bears weapons against us, he should not expect us to ask him for a discussion of views. We will use weapons against him immediately. That is how the early Muslims behaved. When Arab tribes defected after the death of the prophet, they were not confronted with recitations from the Koran. They were confronted with swords.

He who desires democracy must use democratic means. He who demands democracy and bears weapons against us will find our swords against him, in accordance with the law. We cannot reach an understanding with he who demands democracy as a cover while giving statements to a foreign radio station or a foreign paper. He can make his views heard over the radio for all those interested, but it is difficult for us to reach an understanding with such a person.

In Iraq we inherited nothing specific, but we struggled with our nails, souls, and blood to build what we have, and we will build what we have decided to build, with the help of God. The path you are pursuing with other youths will lead to the safety of the shore. This path will enable the youths to participate in construction, to express their views freely, to make decisions in a healthy atmosphere, and to give up any preconceptions in a free debate. When he feels that the other side has prejudices, he will not [word indistinct]. Then those who hold prejudices will be discovered. The good ones cannot be confused. Everything is clear.

Brothers, minimize among you and in your relations any act of authority or attraction or punishment toward a person when he says yes or no. The one who says yes in the national position, such as in the Mother of Battles, should be (?rewarded). But, I mean in discussing matters of life. If you want to say that we want to draw the framework of an activity in the field of poetry, then the poet should not feel that to triumph he should appease

this and that person. A barefooted Arab told Muslim Caliph 'Umar Bin-al-Khattab: If we find a deviation in you, we will straighten you out with our swords. What did 'Umar do? Even if 'Umar punished him, they would ask him: Where is the verse which says that you can punish this man for expressing his opinion?

Their salaries came from jihad. They fought (?to get something). When the authority of the government regarding the yes and no becomes weak, this power will become a moral one. When there is a common action and course, yes and no will be said in full. When a person says yes, you know why he said yes; and when a person says no, you will know the reasons. The one who says no is morally stronger than the one who says yes while deep in his heart there is a no. This is because he will give you time to argue with him; he will give you your human role to argue him about his no. As a result of this discussion, he might move to your side. Thus, the one who says yes when there is a no in his heart deprives himself of discussion and deprives you of playing a real human role in arguing with him about his no.

Therefore, at an earlier time we said that the classes should elect their models. At the beginning this might just have passed like that; the prominent intellectuals or enlightened youths realized this. What is meant was not a simple thing. What is meant is that the student in the intermediate classes should learn how to elect the models and on which bases. We also proposed bases for these bases, so that in the future he elects a member of the higher legislative council. His choice should be based on accurate and subjective calculations; he should also have practiced this process for 11 or 12 years, before he gains the right to elect a representative to the National Assembly. Practice produces the ideology of enlightened people and makes people look at things in a better way. These practices build mankind.

In addition to the material rewards, there should be moral rewards. For example, if there is a possibility of publishing a magazine—taking into consideration the blockade and the possibility of getting paper—you can say that the picture of the first winner will remain on the cover of the magazine for three issues, the picture of the second winner will remain for two issues, and the picture of the third winner will remain for one issue. Your enlightened mind can produce such things.

We do not want prizes to remain merely material, for this would then cultivate a material idea in the minds of (?people). Prizes will become moral once you present man with a copy of the Koran when you give him the vehicle. Along with the vehicle, give him a copy of the Koran, urge him to read it, and beseech God to grant him success. [Words indistinct] we would strike a balance and make, through education and awareness, the moral aspect outweigh the material aspect.

This is because one of the nation's problems is that even the attempts at a partial or semicomplete renaissance which were made prior to the start of this century were sometimes plagued by copying. They copied form. [Word indistinct] copying. Copying is neither a revolution within the psyche nor a process of emancipation for the individual. Indeed, it is a process of copying others' products. Consequently, what happened was that they copied form from the West. Instead of isolating (?substance) from the environment that it must discard, they used to expunge substance more and more. What remained were the superficial aspects of Western life which were then copied. For a true renaissance to materialize in our country, in our nation, a balance has to be struck whereby the spiritual and moral factors must override other factors; otherwise, it will be impossible to effect a renaissance. Attempts at a renaissance might be made. One might produce a train, but the train would not be a product of his own making. This is because his mind and conscience have not been at work in the production process; that is to say, his mind and conscience have failed to be activated. Thus, it would remain a train whose design was copied but which would be operating in Iraq.

Now, we note the Mother of Battles and its great benefits. We did not mean to engage in a showdown of such a magnitude. All people thought that everything would be settled in favor of the criminal scheme with the fall of the first shell on Baghdad. We did not mean to participate in this experience to produce one of the great by-products.

One of these great by-products is the creation of this great and strong cohesion between material and spiritual factors. Now, the morale of each and every Iraqi individual who repaired a factory, a plant, a school, a hospital, a mosque, or a church is stronger than the morale of the Iraqi individual who did not have the opportunity to make any such repairs. Now the factory has become dearer to the Iraqi plant workers, meaning more cherished to their hearts than when it was purchased from France, the United States, the former Soviet Union, or England. Right now they have begun to hear the iron speak. They have begun to deal with it as if it were almost a human being. That is because they developed it, manufactured it, and rebuilt it. As for the past, when plants were imported, foreigners most often assembled them. Sometimes some Iraqis gave them a hand in assembling the plants. Now, the factory that had been ripped apart has been rebuilt by the Iraqis.

Therefore, under normal circumstances it may take us 50 years to gain the experience we will gain because of that reason—the experience we will gain in two years, or even in less than two years, in rebuilding what was destroyed by the war.

Therefore, the harvest and the fruit of what you planted will not only be limited to the fields one can see now. These fields will continue to grow, one after the other. The most distant field will even be greater and have better fruit than the nearest field, as far as your harvest from your brilliant ideas is concerned.

As an Iraqi, I still think that there is a young individual inside of me. Inside me there is a young individual. What do you say, Hatim [al-'Azzawi, chief of the Presidential Office]? [laughing]

You have taken an oath to do a specific thing. I am very happy with this. I even feel compelled to ask to see it very quickly, because this is the first (?serious) act on the way. Instead of too much talk, we say let us do that. As I have said before to the Iraqis, there is a young individual inside every Iraqi. Those who are old have a young individual inside them, as far as courage and ability to revive and stand up to the challenge are concerned. Those who are still children and those we cannot yet call youth have a young individual inside them when they express mature ideas.

Because I cannot give up my right as an Iraqi to have a young individual inside me, I shall, may God spare us egotism [changes thought]... I am not used to taking oaths. I am not used to taking oaths. I took the oath to the party because this was a requirement for membership. But, because this matter requires taking an oath, I say I swear to what you have sworn. Or, rather, let me say that I abide by what you have sworn to, namely, not to buy, what—let me read it—not to buy clothes for myself, or any luxury items from the market for myself, for one whole year as of today. [applause]

[Unidentified speaker] Sir, this is an example of the youth products made by the Club of Culture and Arts [words indistinct] to your excellency a present from the youth products. This is also a bond of allegiance and loyalty to your excellency. The Iraqi youth will be at your disposal as potential martyrs to defend the homeland and the nation under your excellency's banner.

[Saddam] May God protect you. I hope that God will spare you any condition in which you may have to go through any test on that level, the level of martyrdom for the sake of your dear homeland. Homelands, in order to be glorious, have to have youth prepared to make sacrifices, even the sacrifice of their lives. Otherwise they cannot be glorious. It is impossible, especially in the case of Third World countries. Look around you, and not only to the Third World countries. [Words indistinct] the former Soviet Union. They told the Americans: We will do whatever you want. But, still, they gave them nothing. [Words indistinct] they made him without a title, thrown away after they tore apart the Soviet Union. Of course there are subjective reasons inside the Soviet Union which we do not want to discuss. But take this example alone, the example of a superpower whose president said yes to everything that the Westerners wanted, including a signature against a friendly country which had nothing against the Soviet Union, a signature to strike at that country. But this did not save him. They turned him into a person with no title, thrown in the middle of the road.

Unfortunately, this is a world in which the big ones lack values. The homeland in which there are no youth prepared to sacrifice everything, even their lives, cannot be [words indistinct]. Thank God, we have such youth and valiant mujahidin and honorable Iraqi women.

Saddam Remarks to Ba'th Party Meeting Reported

JN1501201092 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1850 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jan (INA)—It was declared here today that the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party [ASBP] has been deemed to be in compliance with all the conditions set for it by Parties Law No. 30 of 1991.

A Revolution Command Council [RCC] decision issued following a meeting on 13 January and published here today explains that the decision comes in appreciation of the ASBP's great leading role in the people's struggle before the revolution and during the march of the glorious 17-30 July Revolution.

President Saddam Husayn had called for a joint meeting of the RCC and the ASBP Regional Command on 13 January 1992 to discuss a message that his excellency had received from the ASBP leadership concerning its position vis-a-vis Political Parties Law No. 30 of 1991 and the issue of adjusting the party's status in accordance with the law.

Speaking at the meeting, his excellency the president said: I have studied in depth the message of our comrades in the party's leadership. I reviewed the history of the recent past and all that pertains to party life and our great people's life, heroic deeds, and glories. In particular, I reviewed the party's indisputable leadership of the popular masses and our valiant armed forces in their great jihad and heroic epics, some of which have become obvious and known worldwide. More particularly, I reviewed the party's great march, beginning with the party's leadership of the Ramadan revolution on 14 Ramadan, corresponding to 8 February 1963, when the party saved Iraq from anti-Arab and atheist tendencies which sought to harm Iraq, Arabism, and our faith in God. This continued through the march of the crucial epic, the 17-30 July Revolution, with all its lofty peaks of construction, glory, jihad, heroism, and ending with the glorious Mother of Battles.

The president added: I found myself in front of these conspicuous and great facts, not only in my capacity as RCC chairman but also in my capacity as the ASBP regional secretary, and proceeding from the cherished values of loyalty and the values of our people's bright history. This is because all these institutions, including the RCC, would not have been what they are now, in terms of purpose, role, and values, had it not been for the ASBP's struggle, jihad, and responsible leading role in Iraqi society, on both the popular and official levels, beginning with the first torch lit by the 17-30 July Revolution and leading up to the present. This victorious march in our people's life would not have been realized had it not been for this role.

His excellency added: Therefore, we should deal with the issue of adjusting the ASBP's status in accordance with the Parties Law, which we issued based on a deep conviction and a serious desire to entrench the march of pluralism in our country in a distinguished manner that would secure the honest implementation of the law, and which suits the party's status and great historic role. This is why I called for holding this historic meeting to discuss this very issue.

The issue was discussed in the RCC with the participation of the Regional Command members. In light of the RCC's appreciation for the ASBP's great leading role before the glorious 17-30 July 1968 Revolution and its leading role in the reconstruction and jihad process after the revolution, the RCC issued the following decision:

The RCC

Decision No. 22, dated 8 Rajab 1412 Hegira, corresponding to 13 January 1992

The RCC has decided the following:

1. In appreciation of the ASBP's great leading role in the people's struggle and in the march of the glorious 17-30 July 1968 Revolution, the RCC has decided that the ASBP meets all the conditions laid out by Parties Law No. 30 of 1991 to adjust its status in accordance with the aforementioned law.

2. The party, through its Regional Secretariat Bureau, shall follow up the legal, administrative, and financial measures required by Parties Law No. 30 of 1991 with the competent authorities.

[Signed] RCC Chairman Saddam Husayn

[Dated] 8 Rajab 1412 Hegira, corresponding to 13 January 1992

Cities Hold Anti-U.S. Marches on War Anniversary

JN1601124792 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Text] With sweeping anger, mammoth protest demonstrations were staged this morning in cities across Iraq to denounce the ugliest and most vicious barbaric aggression, launched by the United States, its Zionist and Atlantic allies, and the Arabs of vice, against Iraq on 16-17 January 1991 to harm Iraq's sovereignty, security, and comprehensive upsurge.

The main squares of Baghdad and the governorates witnessed angry protest marches strongly condemning the U.S.-Zionist-Atlantic aggression during which the aggressors mobilized all their scientific and technological capabilities and equipment of destruction and evil to strike at Iraq's sovereignty, people, and scientific and technological progress.

Since 0830 today the angry masses have been assembling spontaneously in Baghdad's squares on both sides of the river, al-Karkh and al-Rasafah, and in the main squares of Iraq's governorates. They chanted the slogans Death to Iraq's Enemies and Yes to Saddam Husayn. In their chants and slogans, the angry masses saluted with pride leader President Saddam Husayn's brave jihad stand and his intelligent leadership of the Mother of Battles. The masses urged the world's free nations and humanitarian organizations to punish the United States and its allies for their successive crimes against the brave people of Iraq.

Ne'eman Says Tehiya To Quit Government 19 Jan

TA1501195292 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1900 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Interview with Tehiya leader Minister Yuval Ne'eman by political correspondent Gadi Sukenik and anchorman David Gilboa'—live]

[Text] [Sukenik] Yuval Ne'eman, minister of science and technology, good evening to you. Will you become the former science and technology minister and will Tehiya be out of the government next Sunday?

[Ne'eman] Tehiya's secretariat ended its meeting about 20 minutes ago, and we decided that I should submit my letter of resignation from the government next Sunday. The conditions set out at the Tehiya convention were that we would leave the government the moment the negotiations start dealing with autonomy or with territorial questions, and we concluded that those conditions had materialized. We examined the documents the prime minister showed us today. We weighed this decision and considered it very carefully, and we arrived at this decision in order to prevent autonomy, which we believe is a Palestinian state a priori. Autonomy is just a word, but an autonomy that is not ruled by any sovereignty will actually be a Palestinian state.

[Sukenik] You have been wavering and threatening for some time. Is your decision final this time? Is there no way back from it?

[Ne'eman] I suppose the decision is final. Although I have learned from experience that anything can happen, I really do not see what could stop us from leaving the government now. Of course, if the prime minister were to announce the termination of the talks with the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, we could reconsider.

[Sukenik] In your meeting today Yitzhaq Shamir told you that you will not find a more national government that better preserves Greater Israel and, after all, in the next election you will again join the Likud. So, what will be different?

[Ne'eman] I think he is right, and that is why we joined this government. We did not have much of a choice between the Likud and the Alignment. However, the most essential thing is to stop this process. Our departure from the government will lead to early elections, and the process will have to wait. We hope that after the elections there will be a chance of setting up an even more national-oriented government than the current one. In any event, it is obvious that our presence in the government so far has allowed us to watch over national interests, and in the recent polemics over the budget we enhanced the Jewish hold over Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza.

Unfortunately, this government did not much help us to remain a part of it, because it did not establish new settlements and because of the security situation.

[Gilbo'a] Why were you surprised that the issue of autonomy was raised? After all, when the talks in Washington resumed, it was clear that the question of autonomy would be raised at some point. You should not have been surprised, so why did you stay in the government until now?

[Ne'eman] I joined the government in 1982, a government whose basic guidelines spoke about autonomy and the Camp David accords. Then, just as we did with this government, we countered with a letter in which we specifically stated that we do not accept those points—and the government knew about this. Nothing happened for two years after we joined the government, and in that time we established 55 new settlements. With this government, too, for almost 18 months we helped promote the issue of Eretz Yisra'el. Today we concluded that this is the point where our stay in the government does more harm than good.

[Gilbo'a] Gadi, I would like to ask you a question. The prime minister will be surprised because he thought that Tehiya and Moledet could be dissuaded. What are his options at the moment?

[Sukenik] Moledet's secretariat will meet tomorrow and will almost certainly decide to quit the government as well. As things stand now, five Knesset members will be leaving the coalition and Shamir's government—at least on paper—will be left with 59 supporters at the most. The prime minister's associates asserted today that he would not complete his tenure as the head of a minority government, that he would seek an early election, and that he would not rely on a coalition backed by Labor and the left-wing parties.

[Gilbo'a] If so, what should Moledet do? Should it follow in Tehiya's footsteps?

[Sukenik] Even before Tehiya made its decision, whose haste probably took Moledet's members watching this program by surprise, there had hardly been any doubt that Moledet's secretariat would pass a similar decision tomorrow. Now it is obliged to make such a decision, because both those parties, just like Tzomet, are vying for the right wing's votes. Moledet must follow a similar course, which they wanted to anyway. The decision it will make is quite predictable. I would like to thank Professor Ne'eman....

[Ne'eman, interrupting] I am sure that Moledet will join our decision, for we have actually been coordinating all our moves. I hope the National Religious Party will also decide that this is the right way. I know some of its members share our views with regard to Eretz Yisra'el.

Shamir Bureau Says Early Elections 'Inevitable'

TA1601055192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0500 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Text] This morning the prime minister will open a series of consultations with Likud leaders following the decisions of Moledet and Tehiya to quit the coalition. Tehiya

decided to do that last night, and Moledet is expected to make a similar decision today.

Our political correspondent Arye Golan reports that in the prime minister's bureau they are now certain that early elections are now inevitable, and they expressed their disappointment with both factions' decision to quit. They defined this move as hasty, mainly in view of the explanations that the prime minister gave Ministers Ne'eman and Ze'evi. Mr. Shamir explained to them that the discussion of the autonomy is still far away and that we are only at the beginning of the political process. He emphasized that he is faithful to Eretz Yisra'el. [A similar report by political correspondent Arye Golan on Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 0505 GMT on 16 January adds: "The prime minister declared: I am committed to the peace process, based on the Camp David accords, and I am also faithful to Eretz Yisra'el."]

Shamir Not To Resign, To Seek Election Date

TA1601102192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Text] Our political correspondent Arye Golan has just reported that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this morning decided that he will not go to the president and will not resign but will prefer to coordinate a date for early elections that will be accepted by the Labor Party. Shamir will bring up the date agreed by the two parties for the Knesset approval.

The prime minister is holding consultations with his close associates and ministers. These will last until the evening.

Milo, Ze'evi, Peres Want Early Elections

TA1601062192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0600 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Text] Police Minister Roni Milo said this morning that if it is decided to hold early elections, he would recommend to the prime minister and the coalition partners that they be held as soon as possible to shorten the period of instability and uncertainty. At the same time, he believes that there is no reason for the peace process to stop during the interim period. He hopes that after the elections the Likud will continue the process with a more stable government.

Minister Rehav'am Ze'evi said that he will suggest to his movement to quit the coalition because, as he puts it, the government is headed toward the futile idea of autonomy, as Menahem Begin devised it. His preferred time for elections is May or June.

Labor Chairman Shim'on Peres also says that elections must be held as soon as possible. According to him, the shorter the election campaign is the better for the state and the people. Peres said that the state needs a quick decision because it is paralyzed in all fields. The three made their remarks to Qol Yisra'el correspondents.

Rabin Urges Early Elections

TA1601085192 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Telephone interview with Labor Knesset member Yitzhaq Rabin by Gilat Levi—live]

[Excerpts] [Levi] Good morning, Knesset member Rabin. Does the Labor Party intend to support a Yitzhaq Shamir minority government for as long as it continues the peace process?

[Rabin] In view of the developments at home and in the peace process, and assuming that Tehiya and Moledet are quitting the government, we are in favor of early elections. I do not believe that this government, although it placed autonomy on its agenda, is able to bring about the completion of the agreement with the Palestinians in the territories on this issue. Its order of national priorities, in terms of investing resources, is twisted. [passage omitted]

[Levi] What about the option of a unity government?

[Rabin] I do not see any room today for a unity government to exist in the next six months or so until elections are held. It would be a mistake on the part of the Labor Party to share the Likud's responsibility for the terrible misdeeds and mistakes that this government made in setting its priorities. [passage omitted]

Labor 'Determined' To Topple Government

TA1601115092 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1100 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Text] Labor Party Secretary Mikha Harish says his party will not work along with the prime minister to coordinate a date for early elections. Harish says first Labor is determined to bring down the government with a no-confidence vote in the Knesset. The Labor Party secretary spoke with reporter David Ze'ev.

[Begin recording] [Harish] Now we are presenting next Monday a vote of no-confidence against the government on its failures concerning employment and the fact that there is no prospect of growth in the country. These developments in our eyes are the result of the total failure of the Likud and of Mr. Shamir, as head of the government, and we will not allow him to avoid that confrontation in the public. Of course, after the government will be defeated in the vote of no-confidence on its failure concerning the unemployment, then in the Knesset there is going to be coordination concerning the date of the elections.

[Ze'ev] Now, just to clarify that vote of no-confidence: The deliberation itself will not take place for another week and a half—a week from Monday.

[Harish] Yes.

[Ze'ev] Well, whatever happened to the safety net? The peace process is continuing, after all.

[Harish] Well, the whole time we made a distinction between the peace process and other questions. We said that if the right wing will propose a vote of no-confidence based on its opposition to the peace process, Labor is not going to vote in favor of Moledet, Tehiya, and Tzomet against the peace process. This was the security net that we were ready to give, and it is quite clear that the government still has a majority if it wants to continue the peace process, even if it is a transition government.

[Ze'ev] But if Moledet and Tehiya vote with you in the vote of no-confidence in a week and a half, then what will happen was what you wanted to prevent, according to what you have just said.

[Harish] No, no, because when we vote on the question of the failure of the government on unemployment, the whole future of the young generation here—both those who are leaving the Army or those who are coming from the new immigrants have no future with this government, with Mr. Shamir. This has to be clarified in the public. It is going to be a transition government. It can continue the peace process with the majority of the Knesset supporting it. If Mr. Shamir is serious about it, there is no contradiction in that. [end recording]

National Religious Party Comments

TA1501201692 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1900 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Excerpt] Our political correspondent Gadi Sukenik is back in the studio with some initial reactions to Tehiya's decision to resign from the coalition.

The Likud is perhaps not astonished but was certainly surprised by the impending collapse of the government. At this point Likud members are digesting the news and do not want to react. Perhaps they are preparing for a transitional government. There are definitely a lot of phone calls going on between politicians in high places who are holding consultations.

We have an initial reaction by the NRP's [National Religious Party] Political Secretary Sha'ul Yahalom. He has issued a last-minute appeal to Tehiya and Moledet, claiming that their resignation will only serve the left wing, as after the elections the right wing will continue to oppose the peace process and that this will lead to the establishment of a national unity government made up of the Likud and Labor Parties. Such a government will only weaken the defenders of Greater Israel. [passage omitted]

Levi Says Peace Process To Continue

TA1601124892 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Text] Foreign Minister David Levi said that the peace process will continue even if elections are held in Israel. We can expect further rounds of talks, Levi promised.

As for the political situation, Levi said that the Likud and its coalition partners would hold consultations today and tomorrow regarding their possibilities. He does not see, however, any possibility of an alternative government being established. Levi's statements were reported by our correspondent Eyal Lavi.

Army Removes Settlers From Territories Sites

TA1501185492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1800 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Settlers who barricaded themselves in mobile homes have been evacuated from several sites in the territories. Our correspondent Mikha'el Tuchfeld reports that the Army forcibly removed the settlers from Tall al-Rumaythah after they refused to leave the site, even though they were presented with an evacuation order.

In Kfar Darom, in the Gaza Strip, the settlers voluntarily left the old railway station near Dayr al-Balah. They said that in contacts they held with the political level that it had been implied that a neighborhood named after the late Doron Shorshan would be erected on the site.

Several dozen settlers, together with Knesset members Mikha'el Eytan and Hanan Porat, remain huddled in two mobile homes in Nabi al-Samu'il.

Several settlers, including the widow of Ya'ir Mendelson, who was murdered about a year ago, remain in a mobile home near the settlement of Dolev in Samaria. She told our correspondent that the defense minister had promised her that a settlement named Yad Ya'ir would be erected on the site.

The students from the Qedumim seminar who were arrested at the Ginat outpost north of Janin have meanwhile been released. Earlier, the Army removed the settlers who wanted to place a mobile home on the site.

Arens on Response to Attacks, Settler Actions

TA1501191192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1705 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens said that after every terrorist attack irresponsible statements are made, and what is even worse, illegal actions are carried out. These do not contribute anything to security and even have a detrimental effect. Minister Arens said that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] will not permit any illegal activities in the field and that the Army has been given instructions to act against anyone breaking the law. He also said that the squad responsible for yesterday's shooting is probably the same squad that carried out a shooting at the same site one year ago. Army affairs correspondent Menashe spoke with Defense Minister Arens.

[Begin recording] [Menashe] Defense Minister Arens, there has been another terrorist attack north of Bet-El. Do you think there will be even more violence as the peace process moves forward?

[Arens] We are facing a wave of terrorism which started with the commencement of the talks in Madrid. There

are terrorist squads that think that by perpetrating such acts of murder they can stop the peace process. We will stop this wave.

[Menashe] Minister Ari'el Sharon today virtually called on you to resign. He said that anyone incapable of maintaining security should resign.

[Arens] I do not wish to comment on that, and I certainly do not wish to get into any arguments with my colleagues in the cabinet. I have noticed, however, that after every terrorist attack we hear irresponsible statements from various groups. What is even worse, we also witness irresponsible and illegal actions in the field. These actions do not contribute anything to security. On the contrary, those steps also hinder the activity of the IDF and the security forces.

[Menashe] Minister Sharon believes that solutions can be found to the terrorist attacks, and he is accusing you of being unable to guarantee the safety of the settlers.

[Arens] I told you that I was not willing to conduct a public argument with a cabinet minister. I think this is a rule that all cabinet ministers should follow in every field.

[Menashe] Have the Shin Bet and the IDF been successful against the terrorist squads, or is there perhaps room for different tactics in light of the increase in terrorist attacks?

[Arens] The Army and the security forces are making great efforts, and the people here—including the settlers in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip—are aware of this. I have no doubt that we will stop this wave of terrorism and that there is no chance that these terrorist attacks will divert the Israeli Government from its policy in any way.

[Menashe] On the other hand, several new settlements popped up today. Will you forcibly evacuate them?

[Arens] We will not permit any illegal activity in the area. In those instances in which people settled without a license and without receiving permission, they will not be allowed to remain there.

[Menashe] Did the soldiers receive explicit instructions to remove the settlers?

[Arens] They received clear instructions to act against anyone breaking the law.

[Menashe] There is a feeling that there is an ambiguous attitude about the settlers. For example, the settlers at Rehelim were allowed to remain there an additional month upon their request.

[Arens] There are no settlers in Rehelim. There is a Nahal Brigade presettlement there, not only with our permission but upon my express instructions. We have permitted a memorial vigil of several women to remain there.

[Menashe] How long will they stay there?

[Arens] I do not know. I assume that it will not be forever. It is not necessary because the Nahal Brigade presettlement is situated there. [end recording]

Dutch Foreign Minister Arrives in Amman 15 Jan

JN1501145192 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek arrived in Amman from Damascus this morning on a two-day visit to Jordan. During his visit, the Dutch foreign minister will meet with His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency Prime Minister Zayd Bin-Shakir. He will also hold talks with Foreign Minister Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir.

The Dutch foreign minister and his delegation were received at Amman's airport by Foreign Minister Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir, senior Foreign Ministry officials, and a number of other officials.

The Dutch foreign minister stressed that the EC feels that the states of the region are willing to achieve peace. This, he said, prompts the European countries to support the current peace process and play an effective role in it. In a statement to the press upon arrival in Amman, he said: If a lasting and comprehensive peace is reached, then this will mean future cooperation among all countries to bolster stability.

The Dutch foreign minister also stressed the need to discuss substantive issues in the talks to reach the goals for which the peace conference was held.

Regarding the EC's role in the new world order based on a U.S. initiative, he said that stability in the Middle East will mean stability in Europe and the world at large. Therefore, he added, the Netherlands supports U.S. initiatives in this regard, because the reverse will lead to a state of unrest and instability in the region, and will also reflect negatively on people throughout the world.

Discusses Peace Process With King

JN1501154792 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek and his accompanying delegation at the Royal Court today. The guest minister listened to a comprehensive review by King Husayn of the region's problems, issues of interest to the two friendly countries, Jordan's views on the course of the peace process, and the factors which help it succeed.

His majesty stressed the importance of basing the peace process on international legitimacy, and the need for the concerned parties' good intentions and sincere resoluteness to make the peace process succeed.

The Dutch foreign minister expressed the Netherlands' appreciation for His Majesty King Husayn's responsible stands, and for Jordan's concern for achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the region, as well as its consistent wise policy based on achieving popular aspirations for progress and prosperity in a world permeated by justness and peace. He also notes the Dutch and EC concern for supporting the peace process, their extreme interest in its success, and that they are looking forward to seeing the negotiations move forward to discuss substantive issues as soon as possible.

The guest expressed his thanks and appreciation for His Majesty King Husayn and wished Jordan success in achieving its national aspirations.

The Royal Court chief, the foreign minister, and the Dutch ambassador to Jordan attended the meeting.

Meets Prime Minister, Foreign Minister

JN1501224292 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 2000 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Excerpts] His Majesty the King received at the Hashemite Royal Court this afternoon the Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek, who is now on a visit to Jordan. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir later conferred with Mr. Van den Broek on the current efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East. The prime minister told the Dutch minister that Jordan was determined to achieve a peace settlement based on United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. He said that no stability and prosperity in the region could be attained without achieving Palestinian legitimate rights and an Israeli withdrawal from the territories occupied since 1967.

Mr. Van den Broek said the Netherlands and the EC were anxious to see the peace talks proceeding into a positive direction, and that the Community would remain in contact with all parties to the peace talks. He said that the peace process should be given impetus, adding that the failure of the talks would have adverse repercussions on the region and the world.

The Dutch minister commended Jordan's role in the peace negotiations, which he described as positive and constructive.

The Dutch foreign minister and his Jordanian counterpart, Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir, met at the Foreign Ministry. The talks, which were attended by the visiting delegation and the Foreign Ministry officials, dealt with the Middle East situation and the peace process.

Baker's Remarks on Peace Talks Termed 'Positive'

JN1601112892 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 16 Jan 92 pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "Israel Deadlocks Negotiations Once Again"]

[Text] The proceedings of the bilateral negotiations in Washington starkly show that Israel is serious about exhausting time and efforts and wasting the peace opportunity.

The Arab delegations have been unanimous in describing negotiations with the Israel as futile and as having made no progress. Israel's failure to present any

plan, program, or written agenda is a calculated step to keep the negotiations in a vicious circle.

By refusing to even discuss the settlement activity in the occupied territories, the Israeli side tried to avoid substantive issues, obstruct the negotiations, and cause the Arabs to despair about the success of these talks. This prompted the Arab parties to meet with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and brief him on the progress of these negotiations and the Israeli role in foiling them, especially since the Zionist settlers in the occupied territories are undertaking similar provocative actions that will affect the entire peace process. These settlers continue to build more settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In view of this situation, which calls for despair in the possible continuation of the peace negotiations, the United States, in its capacity as the sponsor of the peace process, should take the initiative to curb the Israeli efforts to disrupt and foil the peace process. We also demand that the EC play an effective and influential role that will pressure Israel into responding to the desire of the international community and abide by the resolutions of international legitimacy.

Secretary of State Baker's remarks on Washington's willingness to undertake an influential and serious role for the sake of getting into substantive negotiations and making progress is a positive sign. Moreover, statements by the Dutch foreign minister, currently in Jordan, that the EC should shoulder its responsibility toward activating the peace process and working for its success, is a positive sign demonstrating the international community's desire to achieve peace.

We believe that the Arab-Israeli talks will not make any worthwhile progress unless the U.S. Administration and the EC exercise pressure that will force Israel to abandon its frustrating maneuvers and provocations and seriously pursue negotiations for the sake of achieving a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace.

Israel and the cosponsors of the conference should be aware that Jordan, as announced by its spokesman, will under no circumstances accept a partial or separate solution. Jordan, as His Majesty King Husayn has emphasized, is seeking a comprehensive peace based on international legitimacy.

Jordan has very seriously made great efforts and mobilized large-scale international support for these efforts in order to achieve a comprehensive and lasting peace, and not a partial or separate one.

Muslim Brotherhood Deputies Support Algerians

JN1601094192 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 16 Jan 92 p 18

[Text] Amman—The office of the Muslim Brotherhood deputies in the House of Representatives issued a statement yesterday on the recent events in Algeria. In the statement, they said:

The brotherly Algerian people expressed their free will and chose their legitimate representatives in the first round of legislative elections held on 26 December 1991. They prepared themselves for the second round of elections scheduled to be held 16 January. However, some lovers of power did not give a hoot about the people's choice and seized power through tanks.

The bloc of Muslim Brotherhood deputies, who have ties of creed, language, history, and common hopes and pains, with Algeria, urge those who encroach on the people's will to fear God and to accept the people's decision in order to spare the country and mankind from blind sedition whose consequences are known only to God Almighty. The bloc calls on parliaments and political movements in the Arab, Islamic, and human world to voice their rejection of this circumvention of the free will and desire of the Algerian people, a people who wrenched their freedom and dignity from colonialism by the blood of 1 million martyrs.

The statement also said: Muslim Arab Algeria is a strong support for all the sons of the Arab and Muslim peoples. Supporting the Algerian people is a national, pan-Arab, and sacred Islamic duty.

And God has full power and control over His affairs; but most among mankind know it not. [Koranic verse]

Cabinet Expresses Reservations Over Moscow Talks

NC1501205792 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Statement issued by the Lebanese Cabinet following meeting in Beirut on 15 January read by Industry and Oil Minister Muhammad Jarudi—recorded]

[Text] While the Lebanese Government appreciates the efforts of the peace conference's two cosponsors, whose objective is to establish a real, comprehensive, and just peace in the Middle East region, and despite the fact that it does not object to the principle of multilateral talks nor the possibility of holding them in Moscow, it must express reservations over its participation on the set date of 28 January. These reservations are made because the cabinet believes the bilateral talks have not yet achieved the tangible and essential progress it considers necessary for proceeding with multilateral talks, which might lead to the implementation of a yet uncertain peace, the features of which are undetermined.

While expecting greater seriousness and honesty in the current talks, the Lebanese Government affirms that despite the stalling attempts, procrastination, and negative attitude the Israeli side has displayed, and despite the continuing daily Israeli attacks on the Lebanese people and territories, it continues to give the peace conference all opportunities needed.

On this occasion, the government warns against repeated Israeli attempts to divide Arab ranks, isolate some of its members, and single out others.

Algerian Army Action Would Legitimize FIS Win

PM1501122192 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 13 Jan 92 p 13

[Hazim Saghiyah article: "The Lesser Evil"]

[Text] Some might say: But Algeria was in any case heading toward civil war, since acceptance of the fundamentalists' election victory would have established the foundations and basis for such a war. This was because the Islamic Salvation Front is not qualified to deal with the Berber minority, with the huge numbers of Gallic cadres and professionals, or with women. In fact it is not qualified to deal with the political process in the first place.

This may all be true. But the civil war which could be prompted by the Army's seizure of power and the obstruction of the second round of the elections—if such a seizure and obstruction do take place—is much uglier than the civil war which acceptance of the fundamentalists' victory might have prompted. The degree of ugliness here is without any comparison to the number of dead and the scale of devastation in the two possible scenarios of two possible civil wars.

The matter concerns two questions which we believe are extremely important:

First, the Army's seizure of power—if it takes place—would leave the fundamentalists in possession of an undisputed right. That is, it would elevate them from election winners to democracy's winners, symbols, and advocates. And if the results of the first round of the elections represented a resounding disgrace for the [National] Liberation Front, which has been in power since 1962, the cancellation of the elections—if this takes place—will be a bigger and more resounding disgrace. In other words, it is a disgrace for the ruling elite and an open announcement of the dilemma into which they have driven the situation in Algeria. This is because it is impossible to keep things as they are. And it is also impossible to change them in any way.

Second, the occurrence of the forbidden military action would push the fundamentalists in Algeria, Tunis, and throughout the Arab world into extremism including violent terrorist actions. This is because the moderate among them will become extremist, and the extremist will become more extremist. That approach will find wider popular support than before because the fundamentalists will become a symbol of a victim who has been denied his right. Many voices will wonder: What kind of democracy is conditional on the ruler's victory or at least the defeat of a particular opposition tendency? A big radical operation like that threatens to destroy the remaining bridges among the Arab regimes and among their societies, which will increasingly isolate themselves and confine themselves to their own cultures and "states"... and civil wars!

There is no need for us to emphasize the fear of fundamentalism and its rise. Despite this, the fear for Algeria and the rest of the Arab world should be greater. In this context those who love Algeria and do not wish upon it the Lebanese fate hope that the Army will not act rashly or embark on a foolish action. This is because the catastrophic spark of an action like than would start in the Army itself before the conflict exploded in society as a whole, since 60 percent of the Algerian Armed Forces personnel are young volunteers who are closer to the "kinfolk" than the 40 percent who are professionals representing the bigotry of the Liberation Front.

The only remaining chance—even though it is diminishing by the hour—is for the Army to be content with the role of guardian so that the electoral process can resume. That way the Algerians will have chosen the lesser evil and prevented the fundamentalists from winning the case after winning the elections.

Al-Shar', Van den Broek Comment on Peace Process

JN1501125792 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1015 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek and his wife left Damascus this morning following a three-day visit to Syria. They were seen off at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', his wife, senior Foreign Ministry employees, the Netherlands ambassador in Damascus, and embassy staff.

In statements to a SANA correspondent, Van den Broek said that he was pleased to meet with President Hafiz al-Asad and to hold lengthy talks with him. He stated: We, along with our partners in the European Community, have pledged to remain committed to the Middle East peace process and to try to push it forward. Van den Broek described his talks in Damascus as very fruitful and important in terms of reaching a position on the Middle East peace talks. He said: We hope that the talks will be substantive and that discussion of procedural issues will end.

For his part, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' answered questions by the journalists accompanying van den Broek. He said: The talks were positive. We tackled several issues, especially the peace process. We discussed other issues, of course, as well as reviewing developments in the region. We discussed the importance of establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the region. This will have an impact on all developments within and outside of the region, as long as peace in the region has an impact on world peace and security.

Al-Shar' added: We reviewed the positions adopted by the parties participating in the talks. We expressed our concern that the peace talks have not been fruitful so far and have not attained substantive objectives. He said: I explained to van den Broek that the Israelis are only wasting time in Washington. It seems as though we went to Washington not to make progress, especially if we link this to the Israelis' intransigent position on the peace process.

Al-Shar' explained: Our delegation insists on the need to implement Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 as the foundation in accordance with which the peace conference was held. However, the Israeli delegation tries to avoid tackling major issues and attempts to move the talks to another venue in or close to the region. Al-Shar' added: The reason for this is very clear. They worked to move the peace talks from Madrid. They did not wish to stay in that city because they wanted to weaken the impact of the peace conference and to obstruct the peace process itself, as well as the bilateral talks—a step which does not help to attain results. Now, once again, they are attempting to move the talks from Washington to another venue for the same reason; namely, to isolate the cosponsors of the conference, to weaken the position of the United States and the other parties, and to prevent them from attaining results.

Replying to a question about Netherlands support for Syria's position on the Middle East peace process, al-Shar' said: Van den Broek has explained the Netherlands viewpoint, which is in harmony with the European point of view and which agrees with our own opinion. It calls on the concerned countries to work on the basis of Security Council resolutions and the principle of land for peace. With regard to this issue, it is our opinion that the Syrian and European viewpoints are very close. Responding to another question on whether he considers the talks useful, al-Shar' stated: I feel that the talks with Van den Broek were very useful.

Washington Negotiations 'Exercises in Futility'

JN1601082392 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 16 Jan 92

[From the press review]

[Text] In an editorial entitled "Sponsors of the Peace Plan and the Required Weight," AL-BA'TH discusses the current talks in Washington within the context of the Middle East peace process. It describes the talks as exercises in futility. Israel's rulers reject peace in part and parcel because they view it as frustrating their Torah dreams and ambitions in the region. The Israelis, therefore, repeatedly play games. They have many ways to kill opportunities for peace and to gain from the approaching U.S. elections new elements for turning a cold shoulder to the entire peace process.

AL-BA'TH says that the Israeli defiance is not meant only against the Arabs, but also against the will of the international community, especially the U.S. Administration, the actual sponsor of the negotiations. The paper notes Israel's evasion of the essence of the issues and says that Israel's rulers are now playing the time game. They know that the year for U.S. presidential elections has begun and that they can either influence the U.S. Administration's decision for their own interests or paralyze the administration's ability to act and have influence of its own. They also have in their hands the card of an early Israeli election, which, they believe, hinders the Israeli Government's ability to make decisive decisions.

AL-BA'TH adds: If the international community accepts the current state of affairs, which is imposed by force and military superiority, then the advocates of the Zionist project will once again try to create a new reality, the reality of greater Israel, and impose it upon the world. Thus, the region will continue to lack peace, stability, and respect for international legitimacy. This means that the region will remain a hotbed for tension and potential future conflicts, with all the contradictions with the advocated new world order that this means.

Concluding, the paper says that Syria has the right to ask the cosponsors of the conference to use their influence to ensure that the conference will address primary, substantive issues and avoid Israel's endeavors to concentrate on secondary issues, such as the venue of the meetings. If there is a serious and genuine desire to push the peace process forward, then one should be alert to the danger of the new Israeli minefield concerning the venue of the conference. This is meant to torpedo the peace conference and the entire peace process.

Iran

Defense Official Confirms Arms Deal With Russia

PM1401122692 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 12 Jan 92 pp 1, 6

[Unattributed report: "Arms Deal With Russia Worth $5 Billion"]

[Excerpt] Tehran, SAWT AL-KUWAYT—Russian President Yeltsin has assured the Iranian leadership that after the the breakup that hit the Soviet Union, his country will remain committed to the agreements and contracts concluded in the past. This was stated yesterday by a senior official of the Iranian Defense Ministry's military procurement department. He said: The military agreement still exists between Iran and Russia. It was concluded between the two countries a few weeks after the Gulf war broke out. It carried the signatures of Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Soviet President Gorbachev. He emphasized that the only difference is that a minor amendment has been added and that the value of the agreement is $5 billion. He noted that a technical military delegation also visited Tehran to conclude a deal on the sale of British arms to Tehran. The Iranian official said that President Yeltsin requested the amendment of some clauses in the major military agreement between the two countries. These clauses concern Iran's methods of paying the cost of the arms and equipment, because at the time the agreement was concluded, Moscow agreed to Iran's offer to pay half of the value in oil and gas. In a message to Hashemi-Rafsanjani, however, Yeltsin explained his country's problems in obtaining hard currency and asked if Iran tmight pay for the aircraft and tanks in hard currency and cash, while agreeing to paying the other equipment and accompanying services in oil.

SAWT AL-KUWAYT has learned that so far, Iran has received 24-28 Mig-29's and Mig-27's, in addition to Sukhoi fighter bombers, and between 200-250 T-72 tanks. The new shipment scheduled to be delivered before the end of the month includes 18 fighters and two modern Ilyushins fitted with air reconnaissance and early warning equipment. The shipment also includes 50 tanks, missile launchers, and long-range guns.

According to military sources in Iran, a group of Russian experts arrived in Iran at the beginning of the year to supervise the training of Air Force officers and technicians and the Iranian Army's missile unit. One must keep in mind that 80 Iranian pilots and technicians have completed their special training at the Russian Air Academy near Moscow.

Meanwhile, a large technical military delegation representing several British companies in the defense industry field arrived in Tehran at the end of last week. SAWT AL-KUWAYT has learned that the delegation in question includes representatives of British Aerospace, Military Ordnance, IMS, and MC International. The British delegation's visit to Iran is the first of its kind since the the revolution was launched. [passage omitted]

Editorial Denies Tehran Seeks Nuclear Weapons

LD1501141292 Tehran IRNA in English 1117 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 15, IRNA—Iran is neither in the race for nuclear arms nor has it any intention to destablize Africa, as the Western media and its Third World surrogates allege, said the English daily KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL here today.

Such assertions, said KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in its editorial titled "Dispelling Misunderstandings" are "simply intended to mislead the public and spread false information" about the Islamic Republic of Iran.

"As far as Sudan is concerned, it must be said that it is a Muslim state and the Islamic Republic has always said it would do everything, moral and material within its power, to help and cooperate with Islamic states," said the daily.

Turning to the former Soviet republics, it said "six of these republics are Muslim and have common borders with Iran in the north and northeast by land or sea. The six republics with more than a 60 million population can be like another Persian Gulf to Iran as far as the possibility for economic and cultural exchanges is concerned. Some of these states... once formed part of greater Iran and that the cultural and historical ties between Iran and them are great and these ties can act as an instrument for advancing the two nations' goals."

The editorial said that "with Islam acting like a powerful common bond after years of communist rule, the Islamic Republic is now seeking stronger ties" with the former Soviet republics.

"Therefore, the active diplomacy the Islamic Republic has launched... is natural and in response to social needs," and "is not out of desire to buy nuclear bombs but gain foothold in a mutually beneficial future."

'Intense Clashes' Along Turkish Borders Reported

TA1501195692 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Following unrest and intense clashes along the Iranian-Turkish borders, Interior Minister 'Abdollah Nuri-Hoseynabadi left for Bazargan, Sarv, and Poldasht in the northern part of West Azerbaijan Province.

Khamene'i Warns Against Western-Style Elections

LD1501125392 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Excerpts] At a meeting with the minister, deputy ministers, and directors general of the Ministry of Education and Training from all over the country, His Eminence

Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, referred to the teaching of Islamic ideology as a top priority for and the core of education and training. [passage omitted]

Saying that education and training is the main target of cultural attacks by Islam's enemies, the leader of the Islamic revolution said the aim of the arrogant powers in these attacks against the Islamic revolution is to separate the new generation from its faith in religion, revolutionary principles, and the active ideology—principles that have frightened the enemies of Islam and threatened their power. Today, we are witnessing this obvious, rough, and hostile front against Islam in Algeria and other Islamic lands.

Referring to the leaning of various nations toward Islam and the Islamic way of life, he said that in any part of the world where the people express an interest in Islam, the evil powers take a position against them. We believe that eventually the people of Algeria will attain their desired goal of an Islamic state. The plots hatched by arrogance, America in particular, will be foiled.

Stressing that the enemies of Islam are unable to withstand the will of nations, he said that by resisting, nations will finally establish their will and attain their hearts' desire. We have witnessed the depth of the hostility and preparedness of world arrogance to destroy Islam, as seen in Iran. Now we are at war with the enemies of Islam on the economic, cultural, and political fronts.

Referring to the election for the fourth Majles, he said that all the machinery of the system must do its part so that the elections are held properly. The correctness of the elections depends on whether they really reflect the people's vote and personal choices. For that purpose, it is necessary that people's awareness reach a point where they make the correct choice.

The leader of the revolution warned about the possibility of certain temptations during the election to corrupt the people's votes and thoughts. He said: Our people should elect their representatives consciously and with consideration. The trend of the election should not follow Western customs, where votes for certain individuals or factions are gained using money, propaganda, and buying weak-willed people. [passage omitted]

Parliamentarians Assail Algerian Elections' Delay

LD1501124392 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] In a statement addressed to the Interparliamentary Union, the secretariat of the Interparliamentary Group of the Islamic Republic of Iran referred to the fact that the people of Algeria, in one of the most free and popular elections in the three decades following their independence, have chosen a political system based on multiple parties and democracy. The statement adds that the suspension of elections in Algeria is contrary to human rights, democratic principles, and the criteria of free societies.

The statement says in part: The said move has been adopted under conditions in which world organizations claiming to champion the cause of democracy and a multiparty system, as well as those who claim to be against despotism and dictatorship, especially America, not only have not condemned the said conspiracy and coup against democracy, but support it through silence and political and propaganda moves.

In its statement, the Interparliamentary Group of the Islamic Republic of Iran also asked the world community to defend the rights of the people of Algeria and condemn that dangerous conspiracy on the basis of recognized international principles and the human rights charter, thus denying permission for conspirators to play with the will of nations.

Commentary Assesses Political Stability in Algeria

LD1501215892 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1930 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] A new five-member Higher State Council has taken control of affairs in Algeria, at a time when there is still concern over political stability in that country. The rapid events which have been taking place in Algeria since the resignation of Chadli Bendjedid have added to doubt and suspicion over a likely takeover by the Army and the eventual failure of the first experiment in parliamentary democracy. At the same time, these speedy developments have further clarified the point that the goal of the current unprecedented events is basically to prevent the coming to power of the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS], which took a commanding lead over its rival parties in the first round of elections.

The Higher Security Council, which took power in the first place, had to confront a certain legal problem in justifying its legitimacy. Now, by apparently handing over power to a five-member State Council, it appears that the military has, to a certain extent, moved behind the scenes. The composition of the council and the previous record of its members strengthen such a conclusion. [passage omitted]

This clearly indicates that the ruling clique is seeking to attain its objectives under cover of a more acceptable body, through securing further legitimacy. However, the ensuing concern related to the defeat of the first experiment in parliamentary democracy, through which it was expected that the Muslim people of Algeria might be able to set up a government in line with the Islamic ideal and in a sound manner. Currently, it is not clear how the conflict that has emerged between the ruling clique and the Algerian Muslims will be amicably resolved following the discontinued process of democracy and the postponement of the second

round of parliamentary elections. The general opinion, however, is that the defeated rivals of the FIS, by benefiting from the leverage of the Army, have created complicated conditions which do not seem to have an urgent and fair solution.

It is true that the Army, in its capacity as an organized force, has the necessary capability to stop the trend of events, which were moving in favor of the FIS, but in the opinion of most observers, such a measure will be of a temporary nature. At the same time it will bring with it the risk of a confrontation between the Army and the people, which will not be to the advantage of anyone. The notion that the FIS victory can be neutralized in a democratic manner, with the help of the Army, and without causing tension in the domestic atmosphere, should be construed as a deceptive allurement.

The FIS, in its first reaction, has called for vigilance, unity, and resistance in the face of the new ruling clique. Acceptance of the existing situation will not be that easy for the Algerian Muslims, especially when it is possible that the new government, which, in order to stabilize its position, has promised to remain in power at least until December 1993, will take action to ban political activities. In such a case, it is not impossible that tensions will rise and Algeria be deprived of the necessary stability. Because of ethnic diversity and various intellectual groups, Algeria appears to be vulnerable in this particular respect.

At any rate, it is questionable whether the new ruling clique will be able to fill the gap created by the resignation of Bendjedid. Moreover, there is little belief that power really is in the hands of this five-member group and that the Army generals are not controlling affairs behind the scenes. It is in light of these observations that making the situation conducive to an act of intervention by the Army in Algeria's political affairs can be taken to be a negative phenomenon, and the defeat of the first experiment in democracy in Algeria can be assessed to be detrimental to its national interest. The most optimistic situation to emerge in the future will be the separation of the Muslim people from the ruling clique and a general distrust in government policies. The most dangerous situation will be confrontation. Considering the special position of Algeria, with its economic crisis, this will certainly not be to the advantage of any faction.

Newspapers Comment on Events in Algeria

Western Influence Seen Behind Takeover

LD1401213892 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 14, IRNA—Three morning dailies Tuesday, for the second consecutive day, editorialized on the latest developments in Algeria and the attempts to prevent the Islamists from coming to power. 'JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI' appealed to the Algerian Muslim nation to maintain solidarity, self-confidence and vigilance and materialize rule of Islam while 'TEHRAN TIMES' predicted the eventual victory of Muslims and 'KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL' warned of a silent collusion against democracy in Algeria.

Last Saturday, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid resigned unexpectedly in an attempt to scrap the final run-off for a new National Assembly and prevent the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) from gaining power through the ballot box.

The Persian daily JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI wrote that the Algerian ruling system was deliberately dismantled by the authorities in vengeance, one more valid reason for the Algerians to reject the ruling party. The hasty actions indicated 'political incompetency' of the leadership who pushed the country to the brink of chaos once it failed to win in the elections of last December. Those who created the crisis and disrespected the vote of the people will certainly be responsible for its repercussions in future. This bitter but valuable experience of the Algerian people is the outcome of years of reckless efforts. The latest developments reveal that the Algerians should have no trust in the statesmen who have no confidence in people.

Demonstration of any sign of weakness on the side of the Algerian people will bolden the unpopular parties and the culprits. Fortunately, the Algerians are unlikely to become disheartened and will definitely find a way out of the crisis. The Algerians will be in fault to believe that the present leadership, backed by the West, will grant them whatever is due to them. "They must find a way to secure rule of Islam in Algeria, success of which lies on solidarity, self-confidence, vigilance...."

The English daily TEHRAN TIMES wrote it was interesting that the Americans and British advised their citizens to delay visiting Algeria saying that no such demand was made in the aftermath of a military coup in Haiti or Burma. "Whether Bendjedid allowed himself to be sacrificed to stop Algeria becoming the first Islamic state elected in North Africa or was given no option remains unclear." "What is certain is that the prospect of a fundamental Islamic party winning overwhelmingly at the ballot box had worried western countries and sent shockwaves out to other secular Arab nations of a 'domino effect.' The Muslims of Algeria can now only hold on to the faith that God, justice and fair play is on their side and will eventually overcome even the most stringent repression."

Commenting on the same subject, KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL believed "the latest attempt of the secularists in Algeria is probably doomed to fail, because they cannot rule the Muslim Algerian nation under the bayonet of force forever." "How long the current situation will continue is not clear, what they want however, is to push the FIS and its supporters to resort to violence. That would give the ruling junta an excuse to crush the FIS... under the pretext of thwarting so-called 'terrorism' and Islamic fundamentalism."

The West cannot tolerate the revival of Islam and "undoubtedly the recent conspiracy in Algeria was carried out with the westerners' approval and is in accordance with their long term interests in the region." The so-called advocates of freedom and cradle of democracy resort to undemocratic means whenever they find their interest at stake, concluded KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL.

Daily Criticizes U.S. Position

LD1501140192 Tehran IRNA in English 1055 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 15, IRNA—A morning paper Wednesday came down heavily against Washington's support for use of force to forestall the democratic process in Algeria, and described developments in the north African Muslim country as "sensitive".

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI cautioned all Algerians that if they failed in making a sound calculation of the situation and in recognizing their friends and foes, they would run into serious problems.

"The ruling wing's treason was an attempt to plunge Algeria into chaos," it said, adding that the treacherous act has only served to upgrade the elections into a "war of truth against falsehood," it said.

But what should be considered outrageous, said the daily, is the United States' "impudence" towards the Algerian developments, which evokes memories of its stand against the Islamic revolution to topple the shah's regime in Iran.

"The U.S., as the most impudent enemy of the Algerian people, has not only supported the treason against them, but is trying to portray it as legitimate," a move, said the daily, which "should not remain unanswered and Washington should be asked how it dared to take a stand against the rightful movement of the Algerian people?"

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI told the Algerian people not to be concerned about what has happened in the country since they are faced with "ignorant enemies who would eventually bring disgrace upon themselves." So far none of the Algerian political groups which had any degree of influence among the people had supported the plot, it noted.

The article concluded by saying that although the Algerian people would not easily achieve their cherished objective, they will realize that for seeking "independence, freedom and an Islamic rule, they should have to pay the cost."

Effects of Election Results Assessed

NC1401201792

[Editorial Report] Tehran KEYHAN in Persian on 30 Dec publishes a 1,000-word commentary on page 18 by Hoseyn Ziya'i under the headline "Algeria—A Show of Islam's Political Strength." The commentary discusses the impact that the victory of the Algerian Muslims has both on the world of Islam and on the world as a whole. The commentary says:

"The victory of the Algerian Muslims also is great proof of the Muslims' noteworthy talent in determining the fate of the international order. The distribution of power and the political part played by the Muslims in the formation of the world order, as well as their participation in all these areas, will fully depend on the unity, discipline, and the basic and effective leadership of this force in the field of world developments. Tehran, which now is standing on the 'political summit' of the Islamic world, is the only true pole which can direct this immense and growing potential."

The commentary then discusses the West's concern over the Algerians elections, and adds:

"Now that the 'voice of Islam' is being heard in the world, the need for unity and the use of this potential for gaining as great a role as possible for the Muslims in the new world order is of special significance. Algeria, Sudan, Egypt, Morocco, Lebanon, Iraq, Palestine, and others are among those who have seen Islam's considerable leap forward. To prevent the waste of this growing power of Islam and for the Muslims to gain a better and more effective position on the international scene is a definite requirement. Tehran certainly has the most talent, credibility, and potential to direct this great political front. Iran is the first power in the world of Islam, and the duty of directing this power rests on Tehran's shoulders more than anyone else's. The world is witnessing overt and covert diplomatic wars for acquiring as much power as possible. Tehran's diplomatic competence will be able to gain a special portion of world power for the Muslims."

Tehran JAHAN-E ESLAM in Persian on 31 December publishes a 1,000-word editorial on pages 1 and 3 under the headline "The Islamic Salvation Party: The Pivot of Future Developments in North Africa." After discussing the victory of the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] in the recent elections, it says:

"Irrespective of the positive impacts the FIS victory will have inside Algeria as the first experience in parliamentary democracy, it also will have a regional impact on North Africa. Algeria's future relations with the West are the focus of extensive attention by U.S. and European political circles, and it seems that the propaganda campaign that has started is aimed at instilling doubts in the Muslim Algerian nation on their choice of government. The issue is that under FIS rule, Algerian society will have to change its ways and to coordinate with the traditions that the FIS leadership has extracted from Islamic teachings and wants to implement."

The editorial discusses Algeria's various economic problems and says: "What is significant on the domestic front after the FIS victory is the expectation for a change in former power structures that existed in that country. All the political groups will shoulder the common national

responsibility of working to change the former power structure through effective cooperation. There is no doubt that the FIS has stated its primary objective is to establish a government and to Islamicize former structures. The vote of the Algerian people proves this. One should not ignore, however, the important point that despite being a Muslim society, Algerian society may not have the unity and solidarity that the FIS leaders expect it to have in their political and ideological approaches. Parts of Algerian society are influenced by Western culture, and even though these parts are in the minority, nevertheless, the fact that they belong to ideological circles dictates that approaches be calculated and not aimed at excluding them."

The editorial discusses that time may be needed to change inclinations and says: "Therefore, victory in the parliamentary elections will not grant the FIS the necessary power to rapidly carry out what it wants to. Another important point is that the impact of the FIS victory is on North Africa. Islamic inclinations in North Africa started to culminate years ago, and after the change in power in Algeria, which was achieved through peaceful means, North Africa is now facing a new situation. This positive experience should be used to acquire power. If the FIS is realistic and is able to resolve the problems that remain from the former era, it can motivate Muslims in other North African countries to walk along the right path to acquiring power. The FIS can become the axis by which the Muslims in North Africa can achieve unity, which has become the Islamic and national aspiration of all Muslims."

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian on 2 January publishes on page 16 a 500-word commentary by Mohammad Javad Larijani under the headline "Liberalism's Dictatorship." Larijani discusses how the West falsely advocates the right of the people in politics and how Marxist rule began with the masses and ended with proletarian dictatorship and says that the time has come for liberalism to be disgraced. Larijani then discusses the West's opinion and adds: "If the Algerian people vote for a party which believes in Islam, their vote cannot be respected! Only parties that are anti-God, secular, Christian, Jewish, Buddhist, and so on can participate in elections and possibly win!"

Larijani then discusses how Western democracy has always been based on liberalism and says: "Liberalism, like Marxism, is a false but full-fledged religion. It has a philosophy, ethics, and government! Above all, if people are unable to appreciate liberalism, it should be imposed on them by force!"

Larijani then cites LE FIGARO, which said that the Muslims will not be able to resolve Algeria's economic problems if they come to power, and adds: "We should realize one thing from this extensive 'disgorgement' of enmities, and that is that an Islamic rule should be effective! Increasing effectiveness is sometimes as hard as winning a revolution. The responsibility of Islamic Iran is to become a base for the victorious Islamic nations so that they can rely on Iran when planning for an Islamic system that suits their needs. Today Islamic youths, intellectuals, and scholars should show that it is possible to have an effective Islamic rule."

President Holds Talks With Sudanese Minister

LD1401161892 Tehran IRNA in English 1323 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 14, IRNA—President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani in a meeting with visiting Sudanese Minister of Finance and Economic Planning Abd-al-Rahim Muhammud Hamadi here Tuesday said the Islamic revolution of Sudan was of great value to the Muslim world and the African continent.

Referring to his visit to Khartoum last month, the president said the wrath of global arrogance at his trip betrayed their dissatisfaction with cooperation among Muslim states. Sudan's minister of energy and mining was also present at the meeting.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani also underlined the need for both countries to increase their technical cooperation and trade exchanges, hoping that Sudan with its huge resources could move towards economic self-sufficiency.

Hamadi said the people and officials of Sudan held the Islamic revolution in high reverence as personally witnessed by the Iranian president during his visit to that African country.

He also briefed the president on measures so far taken towards execution of agreements reached between the two heads of states during their summit meet in Khartoum.

Government Establishes Medical Center in Sudan

TA1501155592 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 0330 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] After setting up a hospital and medical centers in Lebanon, the Islamic Republic regime, while stationing about 2,000 Islamic Revolution Guards in Khartoum, has established a complete medical center in Sudan with the help of the Martyrs' Foundation. All the equipment of the medical center, together with a large consignment of medicine, was sent from Tehran to Khartoum. The establishment of these so-called medical centers in Lebanon and Sudan are part of the Tehran regime's efforts at espionage, subversion, and terrorist operations.

Greek Official Terms Visit 'Fruitful,' Departs

LD1501183992 Tehran IRNA in English 1234 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 15, IRNA—President of the Greek Parliament Athanassios Tsaldaris wound up his three-day official visit and left Tehran Wednesday morning.

Tsaldaris was seen off at the airport by his Iranian counterpart Hojjat ol-Eslam Mahdi Karrubi.

Before departure, he described as "fruitful" the outcome of his visit to Tehran, adding that he was here to discuss expansion and further consolidation of Iran-Greece bilateral ties.

Tsaldaris said the coming visit to Tehran of Greek Prime Minister Konstandinos Mitsotakis is indicative of the fact that Iran and Greece are interested in upgrading mutual relations.

For his part, Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi told reporters that talks with Tsaldaris on Tehran-Athens cooperation as well as regional and international issues were "very useful and constructive." Greece, he stressed, plays a key role in the 12-nation European Community.

According to the Majlis speaker the Irano-Greek joint commission has provided grounds for successful expansion of political, economic, cultural and international cooperations between the two countries.

"We hope that during the forthcoming visit of the Greek prime minister to Tehran, steps would be taken for removal of the possible hindrances which block further deepening of the two countries' relations."

The hojjat ol-eslam said, "as a whole, there is no limitation for broadening of the existing ties and international cooperation between the two countries."

While in Iran, the Greek parliamentarian and his entourage held talks with Speaker Karrubi, President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, and toured the historical cities of Esfahan and Shiraz.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Seeks To Visit France

TA1501151092 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 0330 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] While French President Francois Mitterrand and Foreign Minister Roland Dumas have postponed their visits to Iran and relations between the two countries are tense due to the ongoing investigation of Dr. Bakhtiar's murder and the sharp attacks by Tehran newspapers against the French Government, it is being said in Tehran that on the recommendation of Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who is very much interested in making a European tour, his advisers are trying to arrange a visit to Paris. Hashemi-Rafsanjani's close associates are hinting that such a visit is necessary to mend relations between the two countries—relations that have been damaged by the Paris assassinations. Furthermore, on the eve of the regime's 4th Majles elections, Hashemi-Rafsanjani deems a visit to France as necessary to enhance his position at home.

Political observers in Paris are saying that Mitterrand and the French Government are not in a position, politically and socially, to sanction a controversial visit by the Tehran regime's president to Paris.

Tehran Reportedly Buying Oil From Turkmenia

TA1501160992 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 0330 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Reports indicate that the Islamic Republic is getting from Turkmenia the oil needed by Khorasan Province. In the wake of the fuel shortage, the Islamic Republic's Ministry of Petroleum held talks for the purchase of oil from the newly independent Republic of Turkmenia. This oil is distributed in Iran's eastern towns.